The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. Crow).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE
The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:
WASHINGTON, DC, March 2, 2021.
I hereby appoint the Honorable JASON CROW to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.
NANCY PELOSI, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER
The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:
From before the beginning of time, God, You have been for us. In eternity past, You had Your hand in both our creation and in our redemption.
May we appreciate the lives You have given us, and deliver us from our indulgence which squanders the opportunities You have provided.
May we understand that You have given us dominion over the Earth, and disavow us of the prideful notion that we alone are masters of our own existence.
May we see the perfect design You conceived at creation, and forgive us our destructive disregard for Your handiwork.
Most important, may we receive the love You have shown us, and show us mercy when our lives reflect, instead, hate and indifference.
Recreate us, O Lord, to live into Your prevenient plan. We stand in need of Your redemptive grace.
In the strength of Your eternal name we pray.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL
The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 5(a)(1)(A) of House Resolution 8, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Thompson) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.
Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:
I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE
The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

IN SUPPORT OF THE FOR THE PEOPLE ACT
(Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)
Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. Speaker, I strongly support H.R. 1, the For the People Act. Included in this important legislation is the Vote by Mail Tracking Act, legislation I introduced to ensure that all ballots in Federal elections have a Postal Service barcode.
This would enable election officials and the public to track the status of a ballot from when it is put in the mail to when it is delivered, reducing anxiety, increasing accuracy, transparency, and accountability for our ballots.
After an election year with record-breaking numbers of Americans voting by mail, it has never been more critical to provide election officials and the public peace of mind that every vote matters and is counted accurately.
I urge overwhelming support for H.R. 1, which includes reforms across our Government that are critically important, and it includes this important bill, too.

HONORING THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF K-9 OFFICER LUNA
(Mr. STAUBER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)
Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to mourn the tragic loss of K-9 Luna, a beloved member of the Duluth Police Department, who was shot and killed in the line of duty last week.
Luna was a 3-year-old Dutch Shepherd who joined the department's K-9 unit less than 2 years ago, after her handler, Officer Aaron Haller, lost his K-9 partner, Haas, in a similar incident.
As a former Duluth police officer with the Duluth Police Department, I know firsthand that our K-9 partners perform their duties bravely and with great loyalty.
To their handlers, a K-9 is more than a dog. They are a partner, protector, and a valued family member. K-9 officers go home with their handlers each night, so their dedication to their handlers and their job does not end after each workday.
K-9 Luna was a guardian of the Duluth community. She died a hero's death, giving her life to protect her partner and fellow officers on the scene.
My heart is with Luna’s handler, Officer Aaron Haller, the Haller family, and the entire Duluth Police Department during this time of deep sorrow.
I know it cannot be easy to say goodbye to such a good and loving friend. I speak for the entire Duluth community when I say that we are eternally grateful for Luna’s service and sacrifice.

REMOVE BIG MONEY IN POLITICS
(Mr. CROW asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.
Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.
Mr. CROW. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1, the For the People Act.
I have said since day one on this job that if you want to do big and transformational things in America, you first have to get rid of big money in politics.
Whether you want to tackle the climate crisis, reform healthcare, address the gun violence epidemic, or level the playing field for American workers, it is all about shutting off the flow of big money, ending gerrymandering, bolstering our ethics laws, and expanding access to the ballot box. H.R. 1 will do all of these things.
This transformational package includes my bill, the End Dark Money Act, to crack down on mega-donors who hide their political contributions through phony social welfare organizations.
If we have learned anything in the past few years, it is that our democracy is in need of reform. We can and must do big things again, and it begins by passing H.R. 1.
I urge my colleagues to join me in this historic effort.

REMEMBERING UNITED STATES AIR FORCE COLONEL EXA FAY HOOTEN
(Mr. ARRINGTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CROW. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor a great Texan, United States Air Force Colonel Exa Fay Hooten, of Abilene, Texas. She passed away on January 16 at the age of 92. She was born on August 27, 1928, in Floydada, Texas, to Maude Latham and Richard W. Hooten. After graduating high school, she attended Texas Tech University, where she received a bachelor's degree and then later received her Ph.D. from Texas Women's University.
Exa Fay believed travel was second in importance only to a college education. She joined the Air Force and traveled the world working in military hospitals, taking care of our wounded warriors. After Active Duty, she entered the Reserves and was the first U.S. Air Force Reserve dietician to obtain the rank of full colonel.
I thank Colonel Hooten for her service and patriotism. I thank her for showing us that, like the West Texas ice and patriotism, the possibilities of life are limitless when you pursue your passion and put others first.
God bless, and go West Texas.

HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN BURMA
(Ms. TENNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. TENNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to raise awareness of the grave human rights violations taking place in Burma, also known as Myanmar.
For decades, the country of Burma has been working diligently to establish credible elections, democratic civilian governance, and a peaceful transition of power.
However, this progress came to a halt after the military violently seized control on February 1, 2021. The military has since used this unlawful control to violently oppress ethnic minorities, including firing artillery into Burmese villages and displacing over 7,000 people.
Peaceful protests for freedom have been met with deadly force, killing 18 and imprisoning nearly 700. One protester, a 16-year-old boy, was reportedly shot in the head by an army sniper.
Utica, New York, my hometown, is home to over 4,000 Burmese refugees and new Burmese-American citizens. Many fear for the lives of their friends and families in peril in Burma.
In Utica, they have peacefully stood in solidarity with their home country, holding signs that say, “Save Democracy, Save Burma.”
I met recently with a group of these refugees to hear their grim accounts of the conditions in their native country. Their passion and courage are inspiring.
We must also condemn the cruelty and genocide against the Rohingya people, an ethnic minority who also desperately need our support and assistance.
The U.S. remains a symbol of democracy to the world. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the Burmese people in their quest for freedom and democracy.

For the People Act of 2021
(Ms. LOFgren. Madam Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 179, I call up the bill (H.R. 1) to expand Americans’ access to the ballot box, reduce the influence of big money in politics, strengthen ethics rules for public servants, and implement other anti-corruption measures for the purpose of fortifying our democracy, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.
The Clerk read the title of the bill.
The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. DiSANCe) Pursuant to House Resolution 179, the amendment printed in part A of House Report 117-9 is adopted, and the bill, as amended, is considered read.
The text of the bill, as amended, is as follows:
H.R. 1
Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
This Act may be cited as the “For the People Act of 2021”.

SEC. 2. ORGANIZATION OF ACT INTO DIVISIONS;
TABLE OF CONTENTS.
(a) DIVISIONS.—This Act is organized into divisions as follows:
Sec. 1000. Short title; statement of policy.

Sec. 1001. Requiring availability of internet for voter registration.

Sec. 1002. Use of internet to update registration information.

Sec. 1003. Provision of election information by electronic mail to individuals registered to vote.

Sec. 1004. Clarification of requirement regarding necessary information to show eligibility to vote.

Sec. 1005. Prohibiting State from requiring applications to provide more than last 4 digits of Social Security number.

Sec. 1006. Effective date.

PART 1—PROMOTING INTERNET REGISTRATION

Sec. 1010. Short title; findings and purpose.

Sec. 1011. Short title; findings and purpose.

Sec. 1012. Automatic registration of eligible individuals.

Sec. 1013. Contributing agency assistance in registration.

Sec. 1014. One-time contributing agency assistance in registration of eligible voters in an existing record.

Sec. 1015. Voter protection and security in automatic registration.

Sec. 1016. Registration portability and correction.

Sec. 1017. Payments and grants.

Sec. 1018. Treatment of exempt States.

Sec. 1019. Miscellaneous provisions.

Sec. 1020. Definitions.

Sec. 1032. Effective date.

PART 3—SAME DAY VOTER REGISTRATION

Sec. 1031. Same day registration.

PART 4—CONDITIONS ON REMOVAL ON BASIS OF INTERSTATE CROSS-CHECKS

Sec. 1041. Conditions on removal of registrants from official list of eligible voters on basis of interstate cross-checks.

PART 5—OTHER INITIATIVES TO PROMOTE VOTER REGISTRATION

Sec. 1051. Annual reports on voter registration statistics.

Sec. 1052. Ensuring pre-election registration deadlines are consistent with timing of legal public holidays.

Sec. 1053. Use of Postal Service hard copy change of address form to remind individuals to update voter registration.

Sec. 1054. Grants to States for activities to encourage involvement of minors in election activities.

PART 6—AVAILABILITY OF HAVA REQUIREMENTS PAYMENTS

Sec. 1061. Availability of requirements payments under HAVA to cover costs of compliance with new requirements.

PART 7—PROHIBITING INTERFERENCE WITH VOTER REGISTRATION

Sec. 1071. Prohibiting hindering, interfering with, or preventing voter registration.

Sec. 1072. Establishment of best practices.

PART 8—VOTER REGISTRATION EFFICIENCY ACT

Sec. 1081. Short title.
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—HOUSE

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Sec. 9002. Restrictions on private sector pay-
ment for government service.

Sec. 9003. Requirements relating to slowing the
reaching of the revolving door.

Sec. 9004. Prohibition of procurement officers
accepting employment from govern-
ment contractors.

Sec. 9005. Revoking door restrictions on em-
ployees moving into the private sector.

Sec. 9006. Guidance on unpaid employees.

Sec. 9007. Limitation on use of Federal funds
and contracting at businesses owned by
certain Government of-
ficers and employees.

Subtitle B—Constitutional Conflicts of Inter-
est

Sec. 9011. Short title.

Sec. 9012. Divestiture of personal financial in-
terests of the President and Vice
President that pose a potential con-
flict of interest.

Sec. 9013. Initial financial disclosure.

Sec. 9014. Contracts by the President or Vice
President.

Sec. 9015. Legal defense funds.

Subtitle C—White House Ethics Transparency

Sec. 9021. Short title.

Sec. 9022. Procedure for waivers and authoriza-
tions relating to ethics require-
ments.

Subtitle D—Executive Branch Ethics

Sec. 9031. Short title.

Sec. 9032. Reauthorization of the Office of Gov-
ernment Ethics.

Sec. 9033. Tenure of the Director of the Office
of Government Ethics.

Sec. 9034. Duties of Director of the Office of
Government Ethics.

Sec. 9035. Agency ethics officials training and
duties.

Sec. 9036. Prohibition on use of funds for cer-
tain Federal employee travel in
counterpart of certain regulat-
ions.

Sec. 9037. Reports on cost of Presidential travel.

Sec. 9038. Reports on cost of senior Federal offi-
cial travel.

Subtitle E—Conflicts From Political Fundraising

Sec. 9041. Short title.

Sec. 9042. Disclosure of certain types of con-
tributions.

Subtitle F—Transition Team Ethics

Sec. 9051. Short title.

Sec. 9052. Presidential transition ethics pro-
gams.

Subtitle G—Ethics Pledge For Senior Executive
and Administrative Employees

Sec. 9061. Short title.

Sec. 9062. Ethics pledge requirement for senior
executive branch employees.

Subtitle H—Travel on Private Aircraft by Senior
Political Appointees

Sec. 9071. Short title.

Sec. 9072. Prohibition on use of funds for travel
on private aircraft.

Subtitle I—Severability

Sec. 9081. severability.

TITLE IX—CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS

Subtitle A—Requiring Members of Congress To
Reimburse Treasury for amounts Paid as Set-
tlements and Awards Under Congressional Ac-

Sec. 9001. Requiring Members of Congress to re-
burse Treasury for amounts paid as settlements and awards under
the Congressional Accountability Act of 1993 in all cases of
employment discrimination acts by Members.

Subtitle B—Conflicts of Interests

Sec. 9010. Prohibiting Members of House of Represen-
tatives from serving on boards of for-profit entities.

Sec. 9012. Conflict of interest rules for Members
of Congress and congressional staff.

Sec. 9013. Exercise of rulemaking powers.

Subtitle C—Campaign Finance and Lobbying
Disclosure

Sec. 9021. Short title.

Sec. 9022. Reporting in certain campaign re-
ports filed with Federal Election Commission by individuals who are
registered lobbyists.

Sec. 9023. Effective date.

Subtitle D—Access to Congressionally Mandated
Reports

Sec. 9031. Short title.

Sec. 9032. Definitions.

Sec. 9033. Establishment of online portal for
Congressionally mandated reports.

Sec. 9034. Federal agency responsibilities.

Sec. 9035. Removing and altering reports.

Sec. 9036. Relationship to the Freedom of Infor-
mation Act.

Sec. 9037. Implementation.

Subtitle E—Reports on Outside Compensation
Earned by Congressional Employees

Sec. 9041. Reports on outside compensation earned by congressional employ-
ees.

Subtitle F—Severability

SEC. 9501. Severability.

TITLE X—PRESIDENTIAL AND VICE
PRESIDENTIAL TAX TRANSPARENCY

SUBTITLE A—REPORTS

Sec. 10001. Presidential and Vice President
tax transparency.
than that of non-African Americans. In seven States—Alabama, Florida, Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee, Virginia, and Wyoming—more than one in seven African Americans is disenfranchised, twice the national average for African Americans. Congress finds that felony disenfranchisement was one of the tools of intentional racial discrimination during the Jim Crow era. Congress further finds that current racial disparities in felony disenfranchisement are linked to this history of voter suppression, structural racism in the criminal justice system, and adverse effects of historical discrimination.

(5)(A) Congress finds that it further has the power to protect the right to vote from denial or abridgment on account of sex, age, or ability to pay a poll tax or other tax pursuant to the Nineteenth, Twenty-Fourth, and Twenty-Sixth Amendments.

(B) Congress finds that electoral practices including voting rights restoration conditions for people with convictions, voter identification requirements, and other restrictions to the franchise burden voters on account of their ability to pay.

(C) Congress further finds that electoral practices including voting restrictions related to college campuses, age restrictions on mail voting, and similar practices burden the right to vote on account of age.

SEC. 4. STANDARDS FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW.

(a) In General.—For any action brought for declaratory or injunctive relief to challenge, whether facially or as-applied, the constitutionality or lawfulness of any provision of this Act or any amendment made by this Act or any rule or regulation promulgated under this Act, the following rules shall apply:

(1) The action shall be filed in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia and an appeal from the decision of the district court may be taken to the Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. These courts, and the Supreme Court of the United States on a writ of certiorari (if such a writ is issued), shall have exclusive jurisdiction to hear such actions.

(2) The party filing the action shall concurrently deliver a copy the complaint to the Clerk of the House of Representatives and the Secretary of the Senate.

(3) It shall be the duty of the United States District Court for the District of Columbia and the Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit to advance on the docket and to expedite to the greatest possible extent the disposition of...
Sec. 1706. Requiring transmission of blank absentee ballots under UOCAVA to certain voters.

Sec. 1707. Effective date.

Subtitle K—Poll Worker Recruitment and Training

Sec. 1801. Grants to States for poll worker recruitment and training.

Sec. 1802. State defined.

Subtitle L—Enhancement of Enforcement


Subtitle M—Federal Election Integrity

Sec. 1821. Prohibition on campaign activities by chief State election administration officials.

Subtitle N—Promoting Voter Access Through Election Assistance Commission Improvements

PART 1—PROMOTING VOTER ACCESS

Sec. 2001. Treatment of institutions of higher education.

Sec. 2002. Minimum notification requirements for voters affected by polling place changes.

Sec. 2003. Permitting use of sworn written statement to meet identification requirements for voting.

Sec. 2004. Accommodations for voters residing in Indian lands.


Sec. 2006. Ensuring equitable and efficient operation of polling places.

Sec. 2007. Requiring States to provide secured drop boxes for voted absentee ballots in elections for Federal office.


Sec. 2009. Election Day as legal public holiday.

PART 2—DISASTER AND EMERGENCY CONTINGENCY PLANS

Sec. 2111. Requirements for Federal election contingency plans in response to natural disasters and emergencies.

PART 3—IMPROVEMENTS IN OPERATION OF ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

Sec. 2121. Reauthorization of Election Assistance Commission.

Sec. 2122. Requiring States to participate in post-election election surveys.

Sec. 2123. Reports by National Institute of Standards and Technology on use of funds transferred from Election Assistance Commission.

Sec. 2124. Recommendations to improve operations of Election Assistance Commission.

Sec. 2125. Repeal of exemption of Election Assistance Commission from certain government contracting requirements.

PART 4—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Sec. 2311. Application of laws to Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands.

Sec. 2312. Definition of election for Federal office.

Sec. 2313. No effect on other laws.

Subtitle O—Severability

Sec. 2411. Severability.

SEC. 1000. SHORT TITLE, STATEMENT OF POLICY.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This title may be cited as the "Voter Empowerment Act of 2021".

(b) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It is the policy of the United States that—

(1) the ability of all eligible citizens of the United States to access and exercise their constitutional right to vote in a free, fair, and timely manner must be vigilantly enhanced, protected, and maintained; and

(2) the integrity, and accountability of the voting process must be vigilantly protected, maintained, and enhanced in order to protect and preserve electoral and participatory democracy in the United States.

Subtitle A—Voter Registration Modernization

Sec. 1000A. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the "Voter Registration Modernization Act of 2021".

PART 1—PROMOTING INTERNET REGISTRATION

Sec. 1001. REQUIRING AVAILABILITY OF INTERNET FOR VOTER REGISTRATION.

(a) REQUIRING AVAILABILITY OF INTERNET FOR VOTER REGISTRATION.—The National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20501 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 6 the following new section:

"SEC. 6A. INTERNET REGISTRATION.

(a) REQUIRING AVAILABILITY OF INTERNET FOR ONLINE REGISTRATION.—Each State, acting through the chief State election official, shall ensure that the following services are available to the public at any time on the official public websites of the appropriate State and local election officials in the State, in the same manner and subject to the same terms and conditions as the services provided by voter registration agencies under section 7(a):

(1) Online application for voter registration.

(2) Online assistance to applicants in applying to register to vote.

(3) Online completion and submission by applicants of the mail voter registration application forms prescribed by the Election Assistance Commission pursuant to section 9(a)(2), including assistance with providing a signature as required under subsection (c).

(4) Online receipt of completed voter registration applications.

(b) ACCEPTANCE OF COMPLETED APPLICATIONS.—A State shall accept an online voter registration application submitted by an individual under this section, and ensure that the individual is registered to vote in the State, if—

(1) the individual meets the same voter registration requirements applicable under this section as the State treats a registered voter who registers to vote by mail in accordance with section 6(a)(1) using the mail voter registration application form prescribed by the Election Assistance Commission pursuant to section 9(a)(2); and

(2) the individual meets the requirements of subsection (c) to provide a signature in electronic form (but only in the case of applications submitted during or after the second year in which this section is in effect in the State).

(c) SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this section, an individual meets the requirements of this subsection as follows:

(A) In the case of an individual who has a signature on file with the State agency, including the State motor vehicle authority, that is required to provide voter registration services under this Act or any other law, the individual satisfies the transfer of that electronic signature.

(B) If subparagraph (A) does not apply, the individual submits with the application an electronic copy of the individual’s handwritten signature through electronic means.

(C) If subparagraph (A) and subparagraph (B) do not apply, the individual executes a computerized mark in the case of an online voter registration application, in accordance with reasonable security measures established by the State, but only if the State accepts such marks by the individual’s registrant.

(2) TREATMENT OF INDIVIDUALS UNABLE TO MEET REQUIREMENT.—If an individual is unable to meet the requirements of paragraph (1), the State shall—

(A) permit the individual to complete all other elements of the online voter registration application,

(B) permit the individual to provide a signature at the time the individual requests a ballot in an election (whether the individual requests the ballot at a polling place or requests the ballot by mail); and

(C) if the individual carries out the steps described in subparagraph (A) and subparagraph (B) to ensure that the individual is registered to vote in the State.

(3) NOTICE.—The State shall ensure that individuals applying to register to vote online are notified of the requirements of paragraph (1) and of the treatment of individuals unable to meet such requirements, as described in paragraph (2).

(d) CONFIRMATION AND DISPOSITION.—

(1) CONFIRMATION OF RECEIPT.—Upon the online submission of a completed voter registration application by an individual under this section, the appropriate State or local election official shall send the individual a notice confirming the State’s receipt of the application and providing instruction that the individual may check the status of the application.

(2) NOTICE OF DISPOSITION.—Not later than 7 days after the appropriate State or local election official has approved or rejected an application submitted by an individual under this section, the official shall send the individual a notice of the disposition of the application.

(3) METHOD OF NOTIFICATION.—The appropriate State or local election official shall send the notices required under this subsection by regular mail and—

(A) in the case of an individual who has provided the official with an electronic mail address, by electronic mail; and

(B) at the option of the individual, by text message.

(e) PROVISION OF SERVICES IN NONPARTISAN MANNER.—The services made available under subsection (a) shall be provided in a manner that ensures that, consistent with section 7(a)(5)—

(1) the online application does not seek to influence an applicant’s political preference or party registration;

(2) there is no display on the website promoting any political preference or party allegiance, except that nothing in this paragraph may be construed to prohibit an applicant from registering to vote as a member of a political party.

(f) PROTECTION OF SECURITY OF INFORMATION.—In meeting the requirements of this section, the State shall establish appropriate technological security measures to prevent to the greatest extent practicable unauthorized access to information provided by individuals using the services made available under subsection (a).

(g) ACCESSIBILITY OF SERVICES.—A state shall ensure that the services made available under this section are made available to individuals with disabilities to the same extent as services are made available to all other individuals.

(h) USE OF ADDITIONAL TELEPHONE-BASED SYSTEM.—A State shall make the services made available under subsection (a) available through the use of an automated telephone-based system, subject to the same terms and conditions applicable under this section to the services made available online, in addition to making the services available online in accordance with the requirements of this section.

(i) NONDISCRIMINATION AMONG REGISTERED VOTERS USING MAIL AND ONLINE REGISTRATION.—In carrying out this Act, the Help America Vote Act of 2002, or any other Federal, State, or local law governing the treatment of registered voters in the State or the administration of elections for public office in the State, a State shall treat a registered voter who registered to vote online in accordance with this section in the same manner as the State treats a registered voter who registered to vote by mail.

(b) SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR INDIVIDUALS USING ONLINE REGISTRATION.—

(1) TREATMENT OF INDIVIDUALS REGISTERING TO VOTE BY MAIL FOR PURPOSES OF FIRST-TIME VOTER IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.—Section
(303)(b)(1)(A) of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 20183(b)(1)(A)) is amended by striking "by mail" and inserting "by mail or online under section 6A of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993." (2) REQUIRING SIGNATURE FOR FIRST-TIME VOTERS IN JURISDICTION.—Section 303(b) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 20183(b)) is amended—
(A) by redesignating paragraph (5) as paragraph (6); and
(B) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following new paragraph:
(5) SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS FOR FIRST-TIME VOTERS USING ONLINE REGISTRATION.—
(A) IN GENERAL.—A State shall, in a uniform and nondiscriminatory manner, require an individual to meet the requirements of subparagraph (A) if—
(i) the individual registered to vote in the State prior to enactment of section 6A of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993; and
(ii) the individual has not previously voted in an election for Federal office in the State;
(B) REQUIREMENTS.—An individual meets the requirements of this subparagraph if—
(i) in the case of an individual who votes by mail, the individual submits with the ballot a handwritten signature;
(ii) in the case of an individual who votes in person, the individual provides the appropriate State or local election official with a handwritten signature; or
(C) INAPPLICABILITY.—Subparagraph (A) does not apply in the case of an individual who—
(1) entitled to vote by absentee ballot under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (52 U.S.C. 20302 et seq.);
(2) provided the right to vote otherwise than in person under section 3(b)(2)(B)(ii) of the Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act (52 U.S.C. 20302(b)(2)(B)(ii)); or
(3) otherwise than in person under any other Federal law.
(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENT RELATING TO EFFECTIVE DATE.—Section 303(d)(2)(A) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 20183(d)(2)(A)) is amended by striking “Each State” and inserting “Except as provided in subsection (b)(5), each State”.
(4) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 8(a)(1) of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20507(a)(1)) is amended—
(A) by striking “and” at the end of subparagraph (C);
(B) by redesignating subparagraph (D) as subparagraph (E); and
(C) inserting after subparagraph (C) the following new subparagraph:
“(D) in the case of online registration through the official public website of an election official under section 6A of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, if the application is submitted online not later than the lesser of 28 days, or the period provided by State law, before the date of the election (as determined by the date on which the application is sent electronically as the date on which it is submitted); and”.
(5) INFORMING APPLICANTS OF ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.—Section 6A of such Act (52 U.S.C. 20507(a)(5)) is amended by striking “and 7,” and inserting “6A, and 7.”.
SEC. 1002. USE OF INTERNET TO UPDATE REGISTRATION INFORMATION.
(a) IN GENERAL.—
(1) UPDATES TO INFORMATION CONTAINED ON COMPUTERIZED STATEWIDE VOTER REGISTRATION LIST.—Section 303(a) of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 20183(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:
(2) USE OF INTERNET BY REGISTERED VOTERS TO UPDATE REGISTRATION INFORMATION.—
(A) IN GENERAL.—The State or local election official shall ensure that any registered voter on the computerized list may at any time update the voter’s registration information, including the voter’s address and electronic mail address, online through the official public website of the election official responsible for the maintenance of the list, so long as the voter attests to the contents of the update by providing a signature in electronic form in the same manner provided under section 3(a)(c) of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993.
(B) PROCESSING OF UPDATED INFORMATION BY ELECTION OFFICIALS.—If a registered voter updates the voter’s registration information in an electronic mail message transmitted not later than 7 days before the election, the appropriate State or local election official shall—
(i) receive any information on the computerized list to reflect the update made by the voter; and
(ii) if the updated registration information affects the voter’s status to vote in an election for Federal office, ensure that the information is processed with respect to the election if the voter updates the information not later than the lesser of 7 days, or the period provided by State law, before the date of the election.
(C) CONFIRMATION AND DISPOSITION.—
(1) CONFIRMATION OF RECEIPT.—Upon the online submission of updated registration information by an individual under this paragraph, the appropriate State or local election official shall send the individual a notice confirming the receipt of the information and providing instructions on how the individual may check the status of the update.
(2) NOTICE OF DISPOSITION.—Not later than 7 days before the election for local election officials has accepted or rejected updated information submitted by an individual under this paragraph, the official shall send the individual a notice of the disposition of the update.
(3) METHOD OF NOTIFICATION.—The appropriate State or local election official shall send the notices required under this subparagraph by regular mail and—
(I) in the case of an individual who has requested that the State provide voter registration and voting information through electronic mail, by electronic mail;
(II) at the option of the individual, by text message.
(b) ABILITY OF REGISTRANT TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ON RESIDENCE.—Section 9(b) of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20507(b)(2)(A)) is amended—
(1) in the first sentence, by inserting after “return the card” the following: “or update the registrant’s information in an official statewide voter registration list using the online method provided under section 303(a)(6) of the Help America Vote Act of 2002;” and
(2) in the second sentence, by striking “return,” and inserting the following: “returning or if the registrant does not update the registrant’s information in the computerized statewide voter registration list using such online method.”
SEC. 1003. PROVISION OF ELECTION INFORMATION BY ELECTRONIC MAIL TO INDIVIDUAL APPLICANTS TO PROVIDE E-MAIL ADDRESS AND RECEIVE INFORMATION.
(a) INCLUDING OPTION ON VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATION TO PROVIDE E-MAIL ADDRESS AND RECEIVE INFORMATION.—
(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 9(b) of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20507(b)(2)(A)) is amended—
(A) by striking “and” at the end of paragraph (3);
(B) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (4) and inserting “;” and “;”;
(c) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:
“(5) shall include a space for the applicant to provide (at the applicant’s option) an electronic mail address for purposes of receiving voting information (as defined in section 9(b) of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, 52 U.S.C. 20507(b)(2)(A)), and includes a space for the applicant to provide a valid voter registration form if—
(1) the applicant has substantially completed the application form and attested to the state law, before the date of the election.
(2) in the case of any registered voter has provided to the appropriate State or local election official with an electronic mail address for the purpose of receiving voting information (as defined in section 9(b) of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993), the appropriate State or local election official, through electronic mail transmitted not later than 7 days before the election for Federal office involved, shall provide the individual with information on how to obtain the following information by electronic means:
(I) the name and address of the polling place at which the individual is assigned to vote in the election.
(II) The hours of operation for the polling place;
(III) A description of any identification or other information that may be required to present or prove at the polling place.
(b) REQUIRING PROVISION OF INFORMATION BY ELECTION OFFICIALS.—Section 302(b) of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 20182(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:
“(3) PROVISION OF OTHER INFORMATION BY ELECTRONIC MAIL.—If a registered voter provides an address for the purpose of receiving voting information (as defined in section 9(b) of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993), the appropriate State or local election official, through electronic mail transmitted not later than 7 days before the election for Federal office involved, shall provide the individual with information on how to obtain the following information by electronic means:
(I) the name and address of the polling place at which the individual is assigned to vote in the election.
(II) The hours of operation for the polling place;
(III) A description of any identification or other information that may be required to present or prove at the polling place.
SEC. 1004. CLARIFICATION OF REQUIREMENT REGARDING NECESSARY INFORMATION TO SHOW ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE.
Section 8 of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20507) is amended—
(1) by redesignating subsection (i) as subsection (e); and
(2) by inserting after subsection (i) the following new subsection:
“(j) REQUIREMENT FOR STATE TO PROVIDE PROVISION OF INFORMATION TO SHOW ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE.—For purposes meeting the requirement of subsection (a)(i) that an eligible applicant is registered to vote in an election for Federal office within the deadlines required under such subsection, the State shall consider an applicant to have provided a “valid voter registration form” if—
(1) the applicant has substantially completed the application form and attested to the state law, before the date of the election.
(2) the period required by subsection (a)(i) has passed for the applicant to have provided a “valid voter registration form”.
(c) REQUIRING APPLICANTS TO PROVIDE MORE THAN LAST 4 DIGITS OF SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER.
(a) FORM INCLUDED WITH APPLICATION FOR MOTOR VEHICLE DRIVER’S LICENSE.—Section 5(c)(2)(B)(i) of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20508) is amended by striking the semicolon at the end and inserting the following: “; and to the extent that the application that the applicant to the applicant to provide more than the last 4 digits of such number.”;
(b) NATIONAL MAIL VOTER REGISTRATION FORM.—Section 9(b)(1) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 20508(b)(1)) is amended by striking the semicolon at the end and inserting the following: ‘‘, and to the extent required by such Act, to section 1013, ensure that the individual is registered to vote for Federal office in the State if the individual is eligible to be registered to vote in such elections; and (2) not later than 120 days after a contributing agency has transmitted such information with written notice to the individual, in addition to other means of notice established by this part, of the individual’s voter registration status.


(1) identify on file with the appropriate governmental entity the information transmitted by a contributing agency pursuant to section 1014 and who are eligible to be, but are not currently, registered to vote in that State;

(2) promptly send each such individual written notice, in addition to other means of notice established by such State, advising that the individual has not identified the contributing agency that transmitted the information but shall include—

(A) an explanation that voter registration is voluntary, but if the individual does not decline registration, the individual will be registered to vote;

(B) a statement offering the opportunity to decline voter registration through means consistent with the requirements of this part;

(C) in the case of a State in which affiliation or enrollment with a political party is required in order to participate in an election to select the party’s candidate in an election for Federal office, a statement offering the individual the opportunity to affiliate or enroll with a political party or to decline to affiliate or enroll with a political party, through means consistent with the requirements of this part;

(D) the substantive qualifications of an elector in the State as listed in the mail voter registration application form for elections for Federal office prescribed pursuant to section 9 of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, the consequences of false registration, and a statement that the individual should decline to register if the individual does not meet all those qualifications;

(E) instructions for correcting any erroneous information; and

(F) instructions for providing any additional information which is listed in the mail voter registration application form for elections for Federal office prescribed pursuant to section 9 of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993.

(3) the individual is given the opportunity to decline registration.

§ 1013. CONTRIBUTING AGENCY ASSISTANCE

(a) I N G E N E R A L .— In accordance with this part, each contributing agency in a State shall assist the State’s chief election official in registering to vote all eligible individuals served by that agency.

(b) R E Q U I R E M E N T S F O R C O N T R I B U T I N G A G E N C I E S .—

(1) I N S T R U C T I O N S O N A U T O M A T I C R E G I S T R A T I O N .— With each application for service or assistance, and with each related recertification, except in the case of an institution of higher education, with each registration of a student for enrollment in a course of study, each contributing agency that (a) in the normal course of its operations requests individuals to affirm United States citizenship (either directly or as part of the overall application for service or assistance) shall inform each individual who is a citizen of the United States of the following:

(A) unless that individual declines to register to vote, or is found ineligible to vote, the individual will be registered to vote or, if applicable, the individual’s registration will be updated.

(B) The substantive qualifications of an elector in the State as listed in the mail voter registration application form for elections for Federal office prescribed pursuant to section 9 of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, the consequences of false registration, and a statement that the individual should decline to register if the individual does not meet all those qualifications.

(C) in the case of a State in which affiliation or enrollment with a political party is required in order to participate in an election to select the party’s candidate in an election for Federal office, the requirement that the individual must affiliate or enroll with a political party in order to participate in such an election.

(D) voter registration is voluntary, and neither registering nor declining to register to vote will in any way affect the individual’s access to services or benefits, nor be used for other purposes.

(2) O P P O R T U N I T Y T O D E C L I N E R E G I S T R AT I O N R E Q U I R E D .— Except as otherwise provided in this section, each contributing agency shall inform each individual that each application for service or assistance, and each related recertification, renewal, or change of address, cannot be completed until the individual is given the opportunity to decline to be registered to vote.

(3) I N F O R M A T I O N T R A N S M I T T E D . — Upon the expiration of the 30-day period which begins on the date a contributing agency as described in paragraph 1 informs an individual of the information described in such paragraph, unless the individual has declined to register to vote or informs the agency that they are already registered to vote, each contributing agency shall electronically transmit to the appropriate governmental entity information contained in such application with the statewide voter database maintained under section 303 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 21083), the following information:

(A) The individual’s given name(s) and surname(s).

(B) The individual’s date of birth.

(C) The individual’s residential address.

(D) Information showing that the individual is a citizen of the United States.

(E) The State on which the information pertaining to that individual was collected or last updated.

(F) If available, the individual’s signature in electronic form.

(4) Except in the case in which the contributing agency is a covered institution of higher education, in the case of a State in which affiliation or enrollment with a political party is required in order to participate in an election to select the party’s candidate in an election for Federal office, information regarding the individual’s affiliation or enrollment with a political party will be used only if the individual provides such information.

(5) Any additional information listed in the mail voter registration application form for elections for Federal office that is required to be transmitted to the State pursuant to section 9 of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, including any valid driver’s license
number or the last 4 digits of the individual’s social security number, if the individual provided such information.

(c) ALTERNATE PROCEDURE FOR CERTAIN CONTRIBUTING AGENCIES IS ENACTED.—With each application for service or assistance, and with each related re-certification, renewal, or change of address, any contributing agency in the normal course of its operations does not request individuals applying for service or assistance to affirm United States citizenship (either directly or as part of the overall application for service or assistance) shall—

(1) complete the requirements of section 7(a)(6) of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20501(b)(6)); and

(2) ensure that each applicant’s transaction with the agency cannot be completed until the applicant has indicated whether the applicant wishes to register to vote or declines to register to vote in elections for Federal office held in the State; and

(3) for each individual who wishes to register to vote, transmit that individual’s information in accordance with subsection (b)(3).

(d) REQUIRED AVAILABILITY OF AUTOMATIC REGISTRATION OPPORTUNITY WITH EACH APPLICATION FOR SERVICE OR ASSISTANCE.—Each contributing agency shall offer each individual, with each application for service or assistance, and with each re-certification, renewal, or change of address, or in the case of an institution of higher education, with each registration of a student for enrollment in a course of study, the opportunity to register to vote as described by this section without regard to whether the individual previously declined a registration opportunity.

(e) COVERING AGENCIES.—

(1) STATE AGENCIES.—In each State, each of the following agencies shall be treated as a contributing agency:

(A) Each agency in a State that is required by Federal law to provide voter registration services, including the State motor vehicle authority and registration agencies under the National Voter Registration Act of 1993.

(B) Each agency in a State that administers a program pursuant to title III of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 501 et seq.), title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.), or the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111–148).

(C) Each State agency primarily responsible for regulating the private possession of firearms.

(D) Each State agency primarily responsible for maintaining education data, including where applicable, the State agency responsible for administering that sentence, or that restoration of rights.

(2) FEDERAL AGENCIES.—In each State, each of the following agencies shall be treated as a contributing agency:

(A) Each agency in a State that is required by Federal law to provide voter registration services, including the State motor vehicle authority and registration agencies under the National Voter Registration Act of 1993.

(B) Each agency in a State that administers a program pursuant to title III of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 501 et seq.), title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.), or the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111–148).

(C) Each State agency primarily responsible for regulating the private possession of firearms.

(D) Each State agency primarily responsible for maintaining education data, including where applicable, the State agency responsible for administering that sentence, or that restoration of rights.

(F) Any other agency of the State which is designated by the State as a contributing agency.

(2) FEDERAL AGENCIES.—In each State, each of the following agencies of the Federal Government shall be treated as a contributing agency with respect to individuals who are residents of that State (except as provided in subparagraph (C)):

(A) The Social Security Administration, the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Defense Manpower Data Center of the Department of Defense, the Employee and Training Administration of the Department of Labor, the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services of the Department of Health and Human Services.

(B) The Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services, with respect to individuals who have completed the naturalization process.

(C) In the case of an individual who is a resident of a State in which an individual disenfranchised by a criminal conviction under Federal law may become eligible to vote upon completion of sentence or any part thereof, or upon formal restoration of rights, the Federal agency responsible for administering that sentence or part thereof (without regard to whether the agency is located in the same State in which the individual is a resident), but only with respect to individuals who have completed the criminal sentence or any part thereof.

(D) Any other Federal agency within the Executive Branch (including, where applicable, the State agency responsible for the education data described in section 6201(e)(2) of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111–148).

(3) Any information that a contributing agency obtains under this part at an incorrect address shall be treated as a covered in-State institution of higher education who, for purposes referenced in section 1021(a) (but who was not listed in a contributing agency’s records as of the date of enactment of this Act), and for whom the agency has the information listed in section 1013(b)(3), the Agency shall promptly transmit that information to the appropriate State election official in accordance with section 1013(b)(3) not later than 6 months after the effective date described in section 1021(a).

SEC. 1015. VOTER AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE VOTER REGISTRATION SERVICES IN AUTOMATIC REGISTRATION.

(a) PROTECTIONS FOR ERRORS IN REGISTRATION.—An individual shall not be prosecuted under Federal law or any other provision of law, each covered institution of higher education to request each student to affirm whether or not the student is a citizen, or the fact that an individual declined to register to vote under this part.

(b) LIMITS ON USE OF AUTOMATIC REGISTRATION.—The automatic registration of any individual or the fact that an individual declined the opportunity to register to vote or did not make an affirmation of citizenship, including through automatic registration, under this part may not be used as evidence against that individual in any State or Federal law enforcement proceeding, and an individual’s lack of knowledge or willfulness of such registration may be demonstrated by the individual’s testimony alone.

(c) PROTECTION OF ELECTION INTEGRITY.—Nothing in subsections (a) or (b) may be construed to prohibit or restrict any action under color of law against an individual who knowingly or willfully makes a false statement to effectuate or perpetuate automatic voter registration by any individual; or

(d) LIMITS ON USE OF AUTOMATIC REGISTRATION.—The automatic registration of any individual or the fact that an individual declined the opportunity to register to vote or did not make an affirmation of citizenship, including through automatic registration, under this part may not be used as evidence against that individual in any State or Federal law enforcement proceeding, and an individual’s lack of knowledge or willfulness of such registration may be demonstrated by the individual’s testimony alone.

(e) PROTECTION OF ELECTION INTEGRITY.—Nothing in subsections (a) or (b) may be construed to prohibit or restrict any action under color of law against an individual who knowingly or willfully makes a false statement to effectuate or perpetuate automatic voter registration by any individual; or

(f) LIMITS ON USE OF AUTOMATIC REGISTRATION.—The automatic registration of any individual or the fact that an individual declined the opportunity to register to vote or did not make an affirmation of citizenship, including through automatic registration, under this part may not be used as evidence against that individual in any State or Federal law enforcement proceeding, and an individual’s lack of knowledge or willfulness of such registration may be demonstrated by the individual’s testimony alone.

(g) PROTECTION OF ELECTION INTEGRITY.—Nothing in subsections (a) or (b) may be construed to prohibit or restrict any action under color of law against an individual who knowingly or willfully makes a false statement to effectuate or perpetuate automatic voter registration by any individual; or

(h) LIMITS ON USE OF AUTOMATIC REGISTRATION.—The automatic registration of any individual or the fact that an individual declined the opportunity to register to vote or did not make an affirmation of citizenship, including through automatic registration, under this part may not be used as evidence against that individual in any State or Federal law enforcement proceeding, and an individual’s lack of knowledge or willfulness of such registration may be demonstrated by the individual’s testimony alone.
(e) Election Officials’ Protection of Information.—

(1) Public Disclosure Prohibited.—(A) In General.—Subject to subparagraph (B), unless consent to any individual for whom any State election official receives information from a contributing agency, the State election officials shall not publicly disclose any of the following:

(i) The identity of the contributing agency.

(ii) Any information not necessary to voter registration.

(iii) Any voter information otherwise shielded from disclosure under State law or section 8(a) of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20507(a)).

(iv) Any portion of the individual’s social security number.

(v) Any portion of the individual’s motor vehicle driver’s license number.

(vi) The individual’s signature.

(vii) The individual’s telephone number.

(viii) The individual’s email address.

(B) Special Rule for Individuals Registered to Vote.—With respect to any individual for whom any State election official receives information from a contributing agency and who on the basis of such information is registered to vote in the State under this part, the State election officials shall not publicly disclose any of the following:

(i) The identity of the contributing agency.

(ii) Any information not necessary to voter registration.

(iii) Any voter information otherwise shielded from disclosure under State law or section 8(a) of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20507(a)).

(iv) Any portion of the individual’s social security number.

(v) Any portion of the individual’s motor vehicle driver’s license number.

(vi) The individual’s signature.

(vii) The individual’s telephone number.

(viii) The individual’s email address.

(c) Database Management Standards.—The Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology shall, after providing the public with an opportunity to comment, establish standards governing the comparision of data for voter registration list maintenance purposes, identifying as part of such standards the automated processes for each class of matching rules used, and how a State may use the data to determine and deem that an individual is ineligible under State law to vote in an election, or to deem a record to be a duplicate or outdated;

(B) ensure that the standards developed pursuant to this paragraph are uniform and nondiscriminatory and are applied in a uniform and nondiscriminatory manner; and

(C) not later than 45 days after the deadline for public notice and comment, publish the standards developed pursuant to this paragraph on the Director’s website and make those standards available in written form upon request.

(4) Security Policy.—The Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology shall, after providing the public with notice and the opportunity to comment, publish privacy, security, and accuracy of the information on the list; and

(B) security safeguards to protect personal information transmitted through the information system established by section 1014, the online system used pursuant to section 1017, any telephone interface, the maintenance of the voter registration database, and any audit procedure in the system procedures and updates.

(5) State Compliance with National Standards.—

(A) Certification.—The chief executive office of the State shall annually file with the Election Assistance Commission a statement certifying to the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology that the State is in compliance with the standards referred to in paragraphs (3) and (4). A State may meet the requirement of the previous sentence by filing with the commission a statement which reads as follows: “. . . hereby certifies that it is in compliance with the standards referred to in paragraphs (3) and (4) of section 1015(e) of the Automatic Voter Registration Act of 2013.” (with the blank to be filled in with the name of the State involved).

(B) Publication of Policies and Procedures.—(i) Each State shall publish on the official’s website the policies and procedures established under this section, and shall make those policies and procedures available in written form upon public request.

(C) Funding Dependent on Certification.—If a State does not timely file the certification required under subparagraph (A), it shall not receive any payment under this part for the upcoming fiscal year.

(D) Compliance of States That Require Changes to State Law.—In the case of a State that requires State legislation to carry out an activity covered by any certification submitted under this paragraph, if not more than 2 years the State shall be permitted to make the certification notwithstanding that the legislation has not been enacted at the time the certification is submitted, and such State shall submit an additional certification once such legislation is enacted.

(F) Restrictions on Use of Information.—No person acting under color of law may discriminate against any individual based on, or use for any purpose other than voter registration, election administration, or enforcement relating to elections, the following:

(1) Voter registration records.

(2) An individual’s declination to register to vote in elections for Federal office held in a State, the appropriate election official at the polling place for each such election, including in electronic form and through electronic methods, all records of changes to voter registration.

(3) Any voter information otherwise shielded from disclosure under subsection (a), the official shall notify the individual, including the individual’s name and political party affiliation, in the records of the election official, and cast a ballot in the election on the basis of the updated address or corrected information, and not as a provisional ballot under section 302(a) of such Act.

(2) Updates to Computerized Statewide Voter Registration Lists.—If an election official at the polling place receives an updated address or corrected information from an individual under subsection (a), the official shall ensure that the address or information is promptly entered into the computerized statewide voter registration list in accordance with section 1012(d)(1)(A)(ii) of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 21083(a)(1)(A)(ii)).

SEC. 1017. Payments and Grants.

(a) In General.—The Election Assistance Commission shall make grants to eligible States to assist the State in implementing the requirements of this part (or, in the case of an exempt State, in implementing its existing automatic voter registration program).

(b) Eligibility; Application.—A State is eligible to receive a grant under this section if the State submits to the Commission, at such time and in such form as the Commission may require, an application containing—

(1) a description of the activities the State will carry out with the grant; and

(2) an assurance that the State shall carry out such activities without partisan bias and without promoting any particular point of view regardless of any issue; and

(3) such other information and assurances as the Commission may require.

(c) Amount of Grant; Priorities.—The Commission shall determine the amount of a grant made to an eligible State under this section. In determining the amounts of the grants, the Commission shall give priority to funding those States which are most likely to accelerate compliance with the requirements of this part (or, in the case of an exempt State, which are most likely to enhance the ability of the State to automatically register individuals to vote through its existing automatic voter registration program), including—

(1) investments in computerized electronic information transfer, including electronic collection and transfer of signatures, between contributing agencies and the appropriate State election officials;

(2) updates to online or electronic voter registration systems already operating as of the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(3) States having computerized voter registration systems in jurisdictions in which those systems did not previously exist; and

(4) public education and the availability of new methods of registering to vote, updating registration, and correcting registration.

(d) Authorization of Appropriations.—

(1) Authorization.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section—

(A) $500,000,000 for fiscal year 2011; and

(B) such sums as may be necessary for each succeeding fiscal year.

(2) Continuing Availability of Funds.—Any amounts appropriated pursuant to the authority of this subsection shall remain available without fiscal year limitation until expended.

SEC. 1018. Treatment of Exempt States.

(a) Waiver of Requirements.—Except as provided in subsection (b), this part does not apply with respect to an exempt State.

(b) Exceptions.—The following provisions of this part apply with respect to an exempt State:

(1) Section 1016 (relating to registration portability and correction).

(2) Section 1017 (relating to payments and grants).

(3) Section 1019(e) (relating to enforcement).

(4) Section 1019(f) (relating to relation to other laws).


(a) Accessibility of Registration Services.—Each contributing agency shall ensure—
that the services it provides under this part are made available to individuals with disabilities to the same extent as services are made available to all other individuals.

(b)やって通す—THROUGH SECURE THIRD PARTY PERMITTED.—Nothing in this part shall be construed to prevent a contributing agency from contracting with a third party to assist the agency in the information transmission requirements of this part, so long as the data transmitted complies with the applicable requirements of this part, including the privacy and security provisions of section 702.

(c) NONPARTISAN, NONDISCRIMINATORY PROVIDI-}

SERVICES.—The services made available by contributing agencies under this part and by the States to eligible individuals, relating to civil and the availability of private rights of action, shall apply with respect to this part in the same manner as such services apply to voting.

(f) RELATION TO OTHER LAWS.—Except as pro-

vided, nothing in this part may be construed to authorize or require conduct prohibited under, or to supersede, repeal, or limit the application of any of the following:


(2) The Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (52 U.S.C. 20301 et seq.).

(3) The National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20501 et seq.).


SEC. 1020. DEFINITIONS.

In this part, the following definitions apply:

(1) The term ‘chief State election official’ means the person designated by the State under section 9 of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20507(c)(2)) to be responsible for coordination of the activities under section 9.

(2) The term ‘Commission’ means the Election Assistance Commission.

(3) The term ‘exempt State’ means a State in which an individual is automatically registered to vote in elections for Federal office, and other forms of information indicating that the registration information was revised by the chief State election official as a result of the forms transmitted by such motor vehicle authorities and the type of information and voter identification information operated by the Electronic Registration Information Center to share voter registration information among participating States.”.

(b) REQUIRED COMPLETION OF CROSS-CHECKS—

Prior to the November 3, 2020, Election.

(4) The number of change of address forms

transmitted by motor vehicle authorities in the State (as described in paragraph (2)) to the chief State election official of the State, broken down by each such authority and agency.

(5) The number of such individuals whose voter registration application forms were accepted and who were registered to vote in the State by each such authority and agency.

SEC. 1014. CONDITIONS ON REMOVAL OF REGISTRATION FROM OFFICIAL LIST OF ELIGIBLE VOTERS ON BASIS OF INTERSTATE CROSS-CHECKS.

(a) MINIMUM INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR REMOVAL UNDER CROSS-CHECK.—Section 8(c)(2) of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20507(c)(2)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (b) as sub-

paragraph (D); and

(2) by inserting after subparagraph (A) the following new subparagraphs:

(B) To the extent that the program carried out by a State under subparagraph (A) to system-

atically remove the names of ineligible voters uses information obtained in an interstate cross-check, in addition to any other conditions imposed under section 8(b), the authority of the State to remove the name of the voter from such a list, the State may not remove the name of the voter from such a list unless—

(i) the individual provided the voter’s full name (including the voter’s middle name, if any) and date of birth, and the last 4 digits of the voter’s social security number, in the interstate cross-check; or

(ii) the State obtained documentation from the ERIC system that the voter is no longer a resident of the State.

(C) In this paragraph—

(i) the term ‘interstate cross-check’ means the transmission of information from an election office in one State to an election official of another State; and

(ii) the term ‘ERIC system’ means the system operated by the Electronic Registration Information Center to share voter registration information and voter identification information among participating States.”.

PART 5—OTHER INITIATIVES TO PROMOTE VOTER REGISTRATION

SEC. 1051. ANNUAL REPORTS ON VOTER REGISTRATION STATISTICS.

(a) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the end of each year, each State shall submit to the Election Assistance Commission and Congress a report containing the following categories of information for the year:

(1) The number of individuals who were registered under part 2.

(2) The number of voter registration application forms completed by individuals that were transmitted by motor vehicle authorities in the State (as described in section 5(d) of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993) and voter registration agencies in the State (as described under section 7 of such Act) to the chief State election official of the State, broken down by each such authority and agency.

(3) The number of such individuals whose voter registration application forms were accepted and who were registered to vote in the State by each such authority and agency.

(4) The number of change of address forms and other forms of information indicating that an individual’s identifying information has been changed that were transmitted by such motor vehicle authorities and voter registration agencies to the chief State election official of the State, broken down by each such authority and agency and the type of form transmitted.

(a) AGAINST VOTER REGISTRATION IN-

FORMATION.—In preparing the report under this section, the State shall, for each category of information described

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in subsection (a), include a breakdown by race, ethnicity, age, and gender of the individuals whose information is included in the category, to the extent that information on the race, ethnicity, age, and gender of the individuals is appropriate).

(c) CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION.—In preparing and submitting a report under this section, a State shall include a reminder that no information regarding the identification of any individual is revealed.

(d) STATE DEFINED.—In this section, a ‘‘State’’ means each of the States and the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, but does not include any State in which, under a State law in effect continuously on and after the date of the enactment of this Act, there is no voter registration requirement for individuals in the State with respect to elections for Federal office.

SEC. 1052. ENSURING PRE-ELECTION REGISTRATION GRANTS TO STATES ARE CONSISTENT WITH TIMING OF LEGAL PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 8(a)(1) of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20507(a)(1)) is amended by striking ‘‘30 days’’ each place it appears and inserting ‘‘28 days’’.

(b) AMENDMENT.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to elections held in 2022 or any succeeding year.

SEC. 1053. USE OF POSTAL SERVICE HARD COPY CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM TO REGISTER IN STATES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Election Assistance Commission (as added by section 2(a)); (B) modifications to the curriculum of secondary schools in the State to promote civic engagement; and (c) other activities to encourage the involvement of young people in the electoral process as the State considers appropriate.

(b) ELIGIBILITY.—A State is eligible to receive a grant under this section if the State submits to the Commission a plan to increase the involvement of individuals under 18 years of age in public election activities in the State.

SEC. 1054. GRANT DEADLINES FOR ACTIVITIES TO ENCOURAGE INVOLVEMENT OF MINORS IN ELECTION ACTIVITIES.

(a) GRANT DEADLINES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Election Assistance Commission (hereafter in this section referred to as the ‘‘Commission’’) shall make grants to eligible States to encourage such States to carry out a plan to increase the involvement of individuals under 18 years of age in public election activities in the State.

(2) CONTENTS OF PLANS.—A State’s plan under this subsection shall include—

(A) methods to promote the use of the pre-registration process implemented under section 8A of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (as added by section 2(a));

(B) modifications to the curriculum of secondary schools in the State to promote civic engagement; and

(C) other activities to encourage the involvement of young people in the electoral process as the State considers appropriate.

(b) ELIGIBILITY.—A State is eligible to receive a grant under this section if the State submits to the Commission, at such time and in such form as the Commission may require, an application containing—

(1) a description of the State’s plan under subsection (a);

(2) a description of the performance measures and targets the State will use to determine its success in carrying out the plan; and

(3) any other information and assurances as the Commission may require.

(c) PERIOD OF GRANT; REPORT.—

(1) PERIOD OF GRANT.—A grant under this section shall be made for a 2-year period agreed to by the State and the Commission.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 6 months after the end of the 2-year period agreed to under paragraph (1), the State shall submit to the Commission a report on the activities the State carried out pursuant to subsection (b) with funds provided by the grant, and shall include in the report an analysis of the extent to which the State met the performance measures and targets included in its application under subsection (a).

(d) STATE DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘‘State’’ means each of the States and the District of Columbia.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated for grants under this section $25,000,000, to remain available until expended.

PART 6—AVAILABILITY OF HAVA REQUIREMENTS PAYMENTS

SEC. 1061. AVAILABILITY OF REQUIREMENTS PAYMENTS TO COVER COSTS OF COMPLETION WITH NEW REQUIREMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 251(b) of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 20001(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ‘‘as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3)’’ and inserting ‘‘as otherwise provided in this subsection’’; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

(4) CERTAIN VOTER REGISTRATION ACTIVITIES.—A State may use a requirements payment to carry out any of the requirements of the Voter Registration Modernization Act of 2001, including the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 which are imposed pursuant to the amendments made to such Act by the Voter Registration Modernization Act of 2001.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 254(a)(1) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 20004(a)(1)) is amended by striking ‘‘section 251(a)” and inserting ‘‘section 251(b)”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to fiscal year 2022 and each succeeding fiscal year.

PART 7—PROHIBITING INTERFERENCE WITH VOTER REGISTRATION

SEC. 1071. PROHIBITING HINDERING, INTERFERING WITH, OR PREVENTING VOTER REGISTRATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 29 of title 18, United States Code is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

§612. Hinder, interfering with, or preventing registering to vote

(1) PROHIBITION.—It shall be unlawful for any person, whether acting under color of law or otherwise, to hinder, interfere with, or prevent another person from registering to vote or to corruptly hinder, interfere with, or prevent another person from aiding another person in registering to vote.

(b) ATTEMPT.—Any person who attempts to commit any offense described in subsection (a) shall be subject to the same penalties as those prescribed for the offense that the person attempted to commit.

(c) PENALTY.—Any person who violates subsection (a) shall be fined not more than $5,000, or imprisoned not more than 5 years, or both.

(d) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 29 of title 18, United States Code is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

‘‘612. Hinder, interfering with, or preventing registering to vote’’.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall be effective on and after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Election Assistance Commission shall develop and publish recommendations for best practices for States to use to deter and prevent violations of section 612 of title 18, United States Code (as added by section 1071), and the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20511) relating to the unlawful interference with registering to vote, or voting, or attempting to register to vote or vote to provide for the posting of relevant information at polling places and voter registration agencies under such Act, the training of poll workers and election officials, and relevant educational materials. For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘‘State’’ includes the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the United States Virgin Islands.

(b) INCLUSION IN VOTER INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS.—Section 202(b)(2) of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 20082(b)(2)) is amended—

(1) by striking ‘‘and’’ at the end of subparagraph (E);

(2) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (F) and inserting ‘‘; and’’; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

‘‘(G) information relating to the prohibitions of section 612 of title 18, United States Code (as added by section 1071), and section 12 of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20511) (relating to the unlawful interference with registering to vote, or voting, or attempting to register to vote or vote), including information on how individuals may report allegations of violations of such prohibitions.’’

PART 8—VOTER REGISTRATION EFFICIENCY ACT

SEC. 1081. SHORT TITLE.

This part may be cited as the ‘‘Voter Registration Efficiency Act’’.

SEC. 1082. REQUIRING APPLICANTS FOR MOTOR VEHICLE DRIVER’S LICENSES IN NEW YORK TO INDICATE WHETHER STATE SERVES AS RESIDENCE FOR VOTER REGISTRATION PURPOSES.

(a) REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICANTS FOR LICENSES.—Section 5(d) of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20504(d)) is amended—

(1) by striking ‘‘Any change’’ and inserting ‘‘Any change’’;

(2) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (F) and inserting ‘‘; and’’; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

‘‘(2A) A State motor vehicle authority shall require each individual applying for a motor vehicle driver’s license in the State—

‘‘(i) to indicate whether the individual resides in another State or resided in another State prior to applying for the license, and, if so, to identify the State involved; and

(ii) to indicate whether the individual intends for the State to serve as the individual’s residence for purposes of registering to vote in elections for Federal office.’’

‘‘(B) If pursuant to subparagraph (A)(ii) an individual indicates to the State motor vehicle authority that the individual intends for the State to serve as the individual’s residence for purposes of registering to vote in elections for Federal office, the State motor vehicle authority shall notify the motor vehicle authority of the State identified by the individual pursuant to subparagraph (A)(ii), who shall notify the chief State election official of such State that the individual no longer intends for that State to serve as the individual’s residence for purposes of registering to vote in elections for Federal office.’’.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall take effect with respect to elections occurring in 2021 or any succeeding year.
PART 9—PROVIDING VOTER REGISTRATION AND ELECTION INFORMATION TO SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

SEC. 1091. PILOT PROGRAM FOR PROVIDING VOTER REGISTRATION AND ELECTION INFORMATION TO SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS PRIOR TO GRADUATION.

(a) PILOT PROGRAM.—The Election Assistance Commission (hereinafter in this part referred to as the “Commission”) shall carry out a pilot program under which the Commission shall provide funds during the one-year period beginning after the adoption of this part to eligible local educational agencies for initiatives to provide information on registering to vote in elections for public office to secondary school students during the school year.

(b) ELIGIBILITY.—A local educational agency is eligible to receive funds under the pilot program under this part if the agency submits to the Commission, at such time and in such form as the Commission may require, an application containing—

(1) a description of the initiatives the agency intends to carry out with the funds;

(2) an estimate of the costs associated with such initiatives; and

(3) such other information and assurances as the Commission may require.

(c) CONSULTATION WITH ELECTION OFFICIALS.—A local educational agency receiving funds under the pilot program shall consult with the State and local election officials who are responsible for administering elections for public office in the area served by the agency in developing the initiatives the agency will carry out with the funds.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this part, the terms “local educational agency” and “secondary school” have the meanings given such terms in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

SEC. 1092. REPORTS.

(a) REPORTS BY RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS.—Not later than the expiration of the 90-day period which begins on the date of the receipt of the funds, each local educational agency receiving funds under the pilot program shall submit a report to the Commission describing the initiatives carried out with the funds and analyzing their effectiveness.

(b) REPORT BY COMMISSION.—Not later than the expiration of the 60-day period which begins on the date the Commission receives the final report submitted by a local educational agency under paragraph (a) of this section, the Commission shall submit a report to Congress on the pilot program under this part.

SEC. 1093. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this part.

PART 10—VOTER REGISTRATION OF MINORS

SEC. 1094. ACCEPTANCE OF VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS FROM INDIVIDUALS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE.

(1) ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATIONS.—Section 8 of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20501), as amended by section 1004, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (k) as subsection (l); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (k) the following new subsection:

“(k) ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATIONS FROM INDIVIDUALS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE.—

“(1) In general.—The State shall not refuse to accept or process an individual’s application to register to vote in elections for Federal office on the grounds that the individual is under 18 years of age, nor shall the individual be required to submit the application, so long as the individual is at least 16 years of age at such time.

“(2) NO EFFECT ON STATE VOTING AGE REQUIREMENT.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a State to permit an individual who is under 18 years of age at the time of an election for Federal office to vote in the election.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to elections for Federal office held on or after January 1, 2021.

Subtitle B—Access to Voting for Individuals With Disabilities

SEC. 1101. REQUIREMENTS FOR STATES TO PROVIDE ACCESS TO VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS AND ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATIONS FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES.

(a) REQUIREMENTS.—Subtitle A of title III of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 20501 et seq.), as amended by section 101(a), is amended—

(1) by redesignating sections 305 and 306 as sections 307 and 308; and

(2) by inserting after section 304 the following new section:

“SEC. 305. ACCESS TO VOTER REGISTRATION AND ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATIONS FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES.

“(a) TREATMENT OF APPLICATIONS AND BALLOTS.—Each State shall—

“(1) permit individuals with disabilities to use absentee registration procedures and to vote by absentee ballot in elections for Federal office;

“(2) accept and process, with respect to any election for Federal office, any otherwise valid voter registration application or absentee ballot application from an individual with a disability if the application is received by the appropriate State election official within the deadline for the election which is applicable under Federal law;

“(3) in addition to any other method of registering to vote or applying for an absentee ballot in the State, establish procedures for transmitting by mail and electronically voter registration applications and absentee ballot applications with respect to elections for Federal office in accordance with subsection (c);

“(4) in addition to any other method of transmitting blank absentee ballots under subparagraph (C) of section 304(a)(3)(C), a State shall transmit the voter registration application or absentee ballot application by any delivery method allowable in accordance with applicable State law, or if there is no applicable State law, by mail.

“(b) By mail and electronically.—

“(1) In general.—Each State shall establish procedures—

“(A) to securely transmit blank absentee ballots to individuals with disabilities in accordance with the preferred method of transmission designated by the individual with a disability for the purpose of providing related voting and instructional materials that accompany ballots transmitted by mail or electronically;

“(B) to transmit a validly requested absentee ballot to the individual in accordance with subsection (e), in the case in which the request is received at least 45 days before an election for Federal office, not later than 45 days before the election; and

“(C) to securely transmit blank absentee ballots to individuals with disabilities in accordance with the preferred method of transmission designated by the individual with a disability for the purpose of providing related voting and instructional materials that accompany ballots transmitted by mail or electronically;

“(2) CLARIFICATION REGARDING PROVISION OF MULTIPLE MEANS OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION.—A State may, in addition to the means of electronic communication so designated, provide appropriate State election officials with an electronic means of communication to individuals with disabilities, including a means of electronic communication for the appropriate jurisdiction of the State.

“(C) for the purpose of providing related voting and instructional materials that accompany ballots transmitted by mail or electronically.

“(3) INCLUSION OF DESIGNATED MEANS OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION WITH INFORMATIONAL AND INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS THAT ACCOMPANY BALLOTS TRANSMITTED—

“(A) To individuals with disabilities. A State shall include a means of electronic communication so designated with all informational and instructional materials that accompany ballots transmitted by mail or electronically.

“(B) By mail and electronically.—

“(I) In general.—Each State shall establish procedures—

“(A) to securely transmit blank absentee ballots to individuals with disabilities in accordance with the preferred method of transmission designated by the individual with a disability for the purpose of providing related voting and instructional materials that accompany ballots transmitted by mail or electronically;

“(B) to transmit a validly requested absentee ballot to the individual in accordance with subsection (e), in the case in which the request is received at least 45 days before an election for Federal office, not later than 45 days before the election; and

“(C) to securely transmit blank absentee ballots to individuals with disabilities in accordance with the preferred method of transmission designated by the individual with a disability for the purpose of providing related voting and instructional materials that accompany ballots transmitted by mail or electronically;

“(2) TRANSMISSION IF NO PREFERENCE INDICATED.—In the case where an individual with a disability does not designate a preferred method of transmission under paragraph (1), the State shall transmit the ballot by any delivery method allowable in accordance with applicable State law, or if there is no applicable State law, by mail.

“(C) for the purpose of providing related voting and instructional materials that accompany ballots transmitted by mail or electronically.

“(4) TRANSMISSION IF NO PREFERENCE INDICATED.—In the case where an individual with a disability does not designate a preferred method of transmission under subsection (a)(3)(C) the State shall transmit the voter registration application or absentee ballot application by any delivery method allowable in accordance with applicable State law, or if there is no applicable State law, by mail.

“(D) TRANSMISSION OF BLANK ABSENTEE BALLOTS TO INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES.—

“(I) In general.—Each State shall establish procedures—

“(A) to securely transmit blank absentee ballots to individuals with disabilities in accordance with the preferred method of transmission designated by the individual with a disability for the purpose of providing related voting and instructional materials that accompany ballots transmitted by mail or electronically;

“(B) to transmit a validly requested absentee ballot to the individual in accordance with subsection (e), in the case in which the request is received at least 45 days before an election for Federal office, not later than 45 days before the election; and

“(C) to securely transmit blank absentee ballots to individuals with disabilities in accordance with the preferred method of transmission designated by the individual with a disability for the purpose of providing related voting and instructional materials that accompany ballots transmitted by mail or electronically;

“(2) CLARIFICATION REGARDING PROVISION OF MULTIPLE MEANS OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION.—A State may, in addition to the means of electronic communication so designated, provide appropriate State election officials with an electronic means of communication for the appropriate jurisdiction of the State.

“(C) for the purpose of providing related voting and instructional materials that accompany ballots transmitted by mail or electronically.

“(3) INCLUSION OF DESIGNATED MEANS OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION WITH INFORMATIONAL AND INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS THAT ACCOMPANY BALLOTS TRANSMITTED—

“(A) To individuals with disabilities. A State shall include a means of electronic communication so designated with all informational and instructional materials that accompany ballots transmitted by mail or electronically.

“(B) By mail and electronically.—

“(I) In general.—Each State shall establish procedures—

“(A) to securely transmit blank absentee ballots to individuals with disabilities in accordance with the preferred method of transmission designated by the individual with a disability for the purpose of providing related voting and instructional materials that accompany ballots transmitted by mail or electronically;

“(B) to transmit a validly requested absentee ballot to the individual in accordance with subsection (e), in the case in which the request is received at least 45 days before an election for Federal office, not later than 45 days before the election; and

“(C) to securely transmit blank absentee ballots to individuals with disabilities in accordance with the preferred method of transmission designated by the individual with a disability for the purpose of providing related voting and instructional materials that accompany ballots transmitted by mail or electronically;

“(2) TRANSMISSION IF NO PREFERENCE INDICATED.—In the case where an individual with a disability does not designate a preferred method of transmission under paragraph (1)(B), the State shall transmit the ballot by any delivery method allowable in accordance with applicable State law, or if there is no applicable State law, by mail.

“(C) for the purpose of providing related voting and instructional materials that accompany ballots transmitted by mail or electronically.

“(3) INCLUSION OF DESIGNATED MEANS OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION WITH INFORMATIONAL AND INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS THAT ACCOMPANY BALLOTS TRANSMITTED—

“(A) To individuals with disabilities. A State shall include a means of electronic communication so designated with all informational and instructional materials that accompany ballots transmitted by mail or electronically.

“(B) By mail and electronically.—

“(I) In general.—Each State shall establish procedures—

“(A) to securely transmit blank absentee ballots to individuals with disabilities in accordance with the preferred method of transmission designated by the individual with a disability for the purpose of providing related voting and instructional materials that accompany ballots transmitted by mail or electronically;

“(B) to transmit a validly requested absentee ballot to the individual in accordance with subsection (e), in the case in which the request is received at least 45 days before an election for Federal office, not later than 45 days before the election; and

“(C) to securely transmit blank absentee ballots to individuals with disabilities in accordance with the preferred method of transmission designated by the individual with a disability for the purpose of providing related voting and instructional materials that accompany ballots transmitted by mail or electronically;
meet the requirement under subsection (a)(5)(A) with respect to an election for Federal office due to an undue hardship described in paragraph (2)(B), the chief State election official shall request that the Attorney General grant a waiver to the State of the application of such subsection. Such request shall include—

(A) a recognition that the purpose of such subsection is to provide such individuals with disabilities enough time to vote in an election for Federal office;

(B) an explanation of the hardship that indicates why the State is unable to transmit such individuals an absentee ballot in accordance with such subsection;

(C) the number of days prior to the election for Federal office that the State requires absentee ballots to be transmitted to such individuals; and

(D) a comprehensive plan to ensure that such individuals are able to receive absentee ballots which they have requested and submit marked absentee ballots to the appropriate State election official in time to have that ballot counted in the election for Federal office, which includes—

(i) the steps the State will undertake to ensure that such individuals have time to receive, mark, and submit their ballots in time to have those ballots counted in the election;

(ii) the manner in which the State provides such individuals sufficient time to vote as a substitute for the requirements under such subsection; and

(iii) any other relevant factual information which explains how the plan provides such sufficient time to vote as a substitute for such requirements.

(2) DELEGATION OF WAIVER REQUEST.—The Attorney General shall approve a waiver request under paragraph (1) if the Attorney General determines each of the following requirements are met:

(A) the comprehensive plan under subparagraph (D) of such paragraph provides individuals with disabilities sufficient time to receive absentee ballots that they have requested and submit marked absentee ballots to the appropriate State election official in time to have that ballot counted in the election for Federal office;

(B) the plan under subparagraph (D) of such paragraph creates an undue hardship for the State;

(C) the State has suffered a delay in generating ballots due to a legal contest;

(D) the plan under subparagraph (D) of such paragraph prohibits the State from complying with such subsection.

(3) TIMING OF WAIVER.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—A State receiving a waiver under paragraph (1) shall submit to the Attorney General the written waiver request not later than 90 days after the election for Federal office with respect to which the request is submitted. The Attorney General shall approve or deny the waiver request not later than 65 days before such election.

(B) EXCEPTION.—If a State requests a waiver under paragraph (1) as the result of an undue hardship described in paragraph (2)(B)(i), the State must at the same time request a waiver under paragraph (1) with respect to an election for public office held in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

(C) APPLICATION OF WAIVER.—A waiver approved under paragraph (2) shall only apply with respect to the election for Federal office for which the request was submitted. For each subsequent election for Federal office, the Attorney General shall only approve a waiver if the State has submitted a waiver request under paragraph (1) with respect to such election.

(4) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section may be construed to allow the marking or casting of ballots in violation of the Constitution of the State.

(g) INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY DEFINED.—In this section, an ‘individual with a disability’ means an individual with an impairment that substantially limits any major life activities and who is otherwise qualified to vote in elections for Federal office.

(h) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall apply with respect to elections for Federal office held on or after January 1, 2022.

(i) CONFORMING AMENDMENT RELATING TO ISSUANCE OF VOLUNTARY GUIDANCE BY ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION.—

(1) TIMING OF ISSUANCE.—Section 311(b) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 21101(b)) is amended by—

(A) striking ‘‘ and ‘‘ at the end of paragraph (2);

(B) striking the period at the end of paragraph (2) and inserting ‘‘; and

(C) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

‘‘(4) in the case of the recommendations with respect to an election for Federal office held in 2022.’’;

(2) REDesignation.—Title III of such Act (52 U.S.C. 21081 et seq.) is amended by redesigning sections 311 and 312 as sections 321 and 322.

(j) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—The table of contents of such Act, as amended by section 1031(c), is amended—

(1) by redesigning the items relating to section 305 as amended by section 1031(c), and

(2) by inserting after the item relating to section 304 the following new item:

‘‘Sec. 305. Access to voter registration and voting for individuals with disabilities.’’;

(3) by redesigning the items relating to sections 311 and 312 as relating to sections 321 and 322.

SEC. 1102. EXPANSION AND REAUTHORIZATION OF GRANT PROGRAM TO ASSURE VOTING ACCESS FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES.

(a) PURPOSES OF PAYMENTS.—Section 261(b) of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 21021(b)) is amended by striking paragraphs (1) and (2) and inserting the following:

‘‘(1) making absentee voting and voting at home accessible to individuals with the full range of disabilities (including impairments involving vision, hearing, mobility, or dexterity) through the implementation of accessible absentee voting systems that work in conjunction with assistive technologies for which individuals have access at the accessible voting centers, independent living centers, or other facilities;

‘‘(2) making polling places, including the path of travel, entrances, exits, and voting areas of such polling places accessible to individuals with disabilities, including the blind and visually impaired, in a manner that provides the same opportunity for access and participation (including privacy and independence) as for other voters; and

‘‘(3) providing solutions to problems of access to voting and elections for individuals with disabilities that provide and provide the same opportunities for individuals with and without disabilities...’’;

(b) REDESIGNATION.—Section 264(a) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 21024(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

‘‘(4) For fiscal year 2022 and each succeeding fiscal year, such sums as may be necessary to carry out this part.’’;

(c) PERIOD OF AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Section 264 of such Act (52 U.S.C. 21024) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), by striking ‘‘Any amounts’’ and inserting ‘‘Except as provided in subsection (b), any amounts’’; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

‘‘(c) RETURN AND TRANSFER OF CERTAIN FUNDS.—In the case of any amounts appropriated pursuant to the authority of subsection (a) for a payment to a State or unit of local government for fiscal year 2022 or any succeeding fiscal year, any portion of such amounts which have not been obligated or expended by the State or unit of local government to which such amounts were transferred shall be transferred to the Commission.’’;

(d) TIMING.—The Commission shall make the first grants under this section for pilot programs which will be in effect with respect to elections for Federal office held in 2022, or, at the option of a State, with respect to other elections for public office held in the State during the year.

(e) ELIGIBILITY.—A State is eligible to receive a grant under this section if the State submits to the Commission, at the same time as the Commission requires an application containing such information and assurances as the Commission may require, a form as the Commission may require, an application containing such information and assurances as the Commission may require.

(f) TIMING.—The Commission shall make the first grants under this section for pilot programs which will be in effect with respect to elections for Federal office held in 2022, or, at the option of a State, with respect to other elections for public office held in the State in 2022.

SEC. 1103. PILOT PROGRAMS FOR ENABLING INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES TO VOTE PRIVATELY AND INDEPENDENTLY.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PILOT PROGRAMS.—The Election Assistance Commission (hereafter referred to as the ‘‘Commission’’) shall, subject to the availability of appropriations to carry out this section, make grants to eligible States to conduct pilot programs under which individuals with disabilities may use electronic means (including the internet and telephones utilizing assistive devices) to register to vote and to request and receive absentee ballots in a manner which ensures such individuals can privately and independently cast their votes at their own residences.

(b) REPORTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A State receiving a grant for a year under this section shall submit a report to the Commission on the pilot programs the State carried out with the grant with respect to elections for public office held in the State during the year.

(2) DEADLINE.—A State shall submit a report under paragraph (1) not later than 90 days after the last election for public office held in the State during the year.

(c) ELIGIBILITY.—A State is eligible to receive a grant under this section if the State submits to the Commission, at the same time as the Commission requires an application containing such information and assurances as the Commission may require.

SEC. 1104. GAO ANALYSIS AND REPORT ON VOTING ACCESS FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES.

(a) ANALYSIS.—The Director of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration shall conduct an analysis under this section regarding each regularly scheduled general election for Federal office with respect to the following:

(1) the extent to which such facilities are used by individuals with disabilities;

(2) the extent to which such facilities are used by individuals with disabilities who are otherwise qualified to vote in elections for Federal office; and

(3) the extent to which such facilities are used by individuals with disabilities who are otherwise qualified to vote in elections for Federal office; and

(b) REPORT.—The Director shall submit to Congress a report on the analysis conducted under this section.
other Federal agencies to help State and local officials improve voting access for individuals with disabilities during elections for Federal office.

(3) When accessible voting machines are available at a polling place, the extent to which such machines are
(A) located in places that are difficult to access;
(B) malfunction; or
(C) fail to provide sufficient privacy to ensure that the ballot of the individual cannot be seen by another person from exercising the right to vote in the registrar's jurisdiction, by virtue of death, conviction, change of address, or otherwise; unless one of the pieces of information matched includes a signature, photograph, or unique identifier that the information from each source refers to the same individual.

[(b) Prohibition Against Voter Caging.—No State or local election official shall present an individual from registering or voting in any election for Federal office, or permit in connection with any election for Federal office a formal challenge to an individual's registration status or eligibility to vote, if the basis for such decision is evidence consisting of
(1) a voter caging document or voter caging list;
(2) an unverified match list;
(3) an error or omission on any record or paper relating to any application, registration, or other act requisite to voting, if such error or omission is not material to an individual's eligibility to vote under the terms of section 613 of title 18, United States Code, as amended by section 1201(a), including information on legal requirements related to voting rights for individuals with disabilities, and privacy concerns for individuals with disabilities during elections for Federal office that contains the following:
(1) the term 'unverified match list' means a list produced by matching the information of registered voters or applicants for voter registration to a list of individuals who are ineligible to vote in the registrar's jurisdiction, by virtue of death, conviction, change of address, or otherwise; unless one of the pieces of information matched includes a signature, photograph, or unique identifier that the information from each source refers to the same individual.
"[(b) Prohibition Against Voter Caging.—No State or local election official shall present an individual from registering or voting in any election for Federal office, or permit in connection with any election for Federal office a formal challenge to an individual's registration status or eligibility to vote, if the basis for such decision is evidence consisting of
(1) a voter caging document or voter caging list;
(2) an unverified match list;
(3) an error or omission on any record or paper relating to any application, registration, or other act requisite to voting, if such error or omission is not material to an individual's eligibility to vote under the terms of section 613 of title 18, United States Code, as amended by section 1201(a), including information on legal requirements related to voting rights for individuals with disabilities, and privacy concerns for individuals with disabilities during elections for Federal office that contains the following:
(1) the term 'unverified match list' means a list produced by matching the information of registered voters or applicants for voter registration to a list of individuals who are ineligible to vote in the registrar's jurisdiction, by virtue of death, conviction, change of address, or otherwise; unless one of the pieces of information matched includes a signature, photograph, or unique identifier that the information from each source refers to the same individual.

(2) Recommendations, as appropriate, to promote the use of best practices used by State and local officials to address barriers to accessibility and privacy concerns for individuals with disabilities in elections for Federal office.

(3) Requirements for Challenges by Persons Other Than Election Officials.—
(1) General.—Chapter 29 of title 18, United States Code, as added by section 1201(a), including information related to voting rights for individuals with disabilities to work at polling sites.

(2) Appropriation of Funds.—For purposes of this subsection, the term "appropriation of funds" means—
(A) the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives;
(B) the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate;
(C) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives; and
(D) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

Subtitle C—Prohibiting Voter Caging

SEC. 1201. VOTER CAGING AND OTHER QUESTIONABLE CHALLENGES PROHIBITED

(a) In General.—Chapter 29 of title 18, United States Code, as amended by section 1071(a), is amended by adding at the end the following:

§613. Voter caging and other questionable challenges

(1) Definitions.—In this section—
(1) the term 'voter caging document' means any document that is returned to the sender or a third party as undelivered or undeliverable despite an attempt to deliver such document to the address of a registered voter or applicant; and
(B) any document with instructions to an addressee that the document be returned to the sender or a third party but is not so returned, despite an attempt to deliver such document to the address of a registered voter or applicant, unless at least two Federal election cycles have passed since the date of the attempted delivery;
(C) the term 'voter caging list' means a list of individuals compiled from voter caging documents and
(2) Penalties for Knowing Misconduct.—Whoever knowingly challenges the eligibility of one or more individuals to register or vote or knowingly causes the eligibility of such individuals to be challenged in violation of this section with the intent that one or more eligible voters be disqualified, shall be fined under this title and imprisoned not more than 1 year, or both, for each such violation. Each violation shall be a separate offense.

(2) Related Laws.—Nothing in this section is intended to override the protections of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20501 et seq.) or to affect the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 20301 et seq.).

(b) Clerical Amendment.—The table of sections for chapter 29 of title 18, United States Code, as amended by section 1071(h), is amended by adding at the end the following:

613. Voter caging and other questionable challenges.

SEC. 1202. DEVELOPMENT AND ADOPTION OF BEST PRACTICES FOR PREVENTING VOTER CAGING

(a) Best Practices.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Election Assistance Commission shall develop and publish for the use of States recommendations for best practices to deter and prevent violations of section 613 of title 18, United States Code, as added by section 1201(a), including practices to provide for the posting of relevant information at polling places and voter registration offices, the training of poll workers and election officials, and relevant educational measures. For purposes of this subsection, the term "State" includes the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the United States Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Subtitle D—Prohibiting Deceptive Practices and Preventing Voter Intimidation

SEC. 1301. SHORT TITLE

This subtitle may be cited as the "Deceptive Practices and Voter Intimidation Prevention Act of 2021."
(A) PROHIBITION.—No person, whether acting under color of law or otherwise, shall, within 60 days before an election described in paragraph (5), by any means, including by means of written, electronic, or telephonic communications, to communicate or cause to be communicated information described in subparagraph (B), or produce information described in subparagraph (B) with the intent that such information be communicated, if such person—

(i) knew such information to be materially false; and

(ii) has the intent to prevent another person from exercising the right to vote in an election described in paragraph (5).

(B) DEFINITION OF ‘MATERIALLY FALSE’.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), a statement is materially false if it is false when made.

(i) the statement states that a specifically named person, political party, or organization has endorsed the election of a specific candidate for a Federal office described in such paragraph; and

(ii) such person, political party, or organization has not endorsed the election of such candidate.

(4) HINDERING, INTERFERING WITH, OR PREVENTING VOTING OR REGISTERING TO VOTE.—No person, whether acting under color of law or otherwise, shall intentionally hinder, interfere with, or prevent another person from voting, registering to vote, or aiding another person to vote or register to vote in an election described in paragraph (5).

(5) ELECTION DESCRIBED.—An election described in this paragraph is any general, primary, or special election held in whole or in part for the purpose of nominating or electing a candidate for the office of President, Vice President, presidential elector, Member of the Senate, Member of the House of Representatives, or Delegate or Commissioner from a Territory or possession.

(b) PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.—

(1) GENERAL.—Subsection (c) of section 2004 of the Revised Statutes (52 U.S.C. 10101(c)) is amended—

(A) by striking ‘‘Whenever any person’’ and inserting the following:

‘‘(1) IN GENERAL.—Whenever any person’’; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

(2) MODIFICATION OF PENALTY FOR VOTER IN-TIMIDATION.—Section 594(a) of title 18, United States Code, as amended by paragraph (1), is amended—

(A) by striking ‘‘Whoever’’; and

(B) by adding the following new subparagraphs:

(i) any criminal penalties associated with voting in any such election; or

(ii) information regarding a voter’s registration status or eligibility.

(C) CRIMINAL PENALTIES.—It shall be unlawful for any person, whether acting under color of law or otherwise, to intentionally hinder, interfere with, or prevent another person from voting, registering to vote, or aiding another person to vote or register to vote in an election described in subsection (e);

(D) PENALTY.—Any person who violates paragraph (1) shall be fined not more than $100,000, imprisoned for not more than 5 years, or both.

(E) ATTEMPT.—Any person who attempts to commit an offense described in subsection (a), (b)(i), or (c)(i) shall be subject to the same penalties as those prescribed for the offense that the person attempted to commit.

(6) ELECTION DESCRIBED.—An election described in this subsection is any general, primary, run-off, or special election held solely or otherwise, shall intentionally hinder, interfere with, or prevent another person from voting, registering to vote, or aiding another person to vote or register to vote in an election described in subsection (e).

(7) PENALTY.—Any person who violates paragraph (1) shall be fined not more than $100,000, imprisoned for not more than 5 years, or both.

(8) ATTEMPT.—Any person who attempts to commit an offense described in subsection (a), (b)(i), or (c)(i) shall be subject to the same penalties as those prescribed for the offense that the person attempted to commit.

SEC. 1304. REPORTS TO CONGRESS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall publish written procedures and standards for determining when and how corrective action will be taken under this section.

(b) CONTENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Each report submitted under subsection (a) shall include—

(A) a description of each allegation of a deceptive practice described in subparagraph (A), including the geographic location, racial and ethnic composition, and language minority-group membership of the persons toward whom the alleged deceptive practice was directed;

(B) the status of the investigation of each allegation described in subparagraph (A); and

(C) a description of each corrective action taken by the Attorney General under section 1091(b), in response to an allegation described in subparagraph (A); and

(b) WRITTEN PROCEDURES AND STANDARDS FOR TAKING CORRECTIVE ACTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall consult with the Election Assistance Commission, State and local election officials, civil rights organizations, voting rights groups, voter protection groups, and other interested community organizations, to develop written procedures and standards applicable to persons con-
have laws that deny convicted individuals the
right to vote because that individual has the right to vote in an election for Federal office pursuant to the Democracy Restoration Act of 2021 and may register to vote in any such election and provide such individual with any materials that are necessary to register to vote in any such election.

(2) DATE OF NOTIFICATION.—

(A) FELONY CONVICTION.—In the case of such an individual who has been convicted of a felony, the notification required under paragraph (1) shall be given on the date on which the individual—

(i) is sentenced to serve only a term of probation;

(ii) is released from the custody of that State or the Federal Government to serve a term of imprisonment for a felony conviction.

(B) MISDEMEANOR CONVICTION.—In the case of such an individual who has been convicted of a misdemeanor, the notification required under paragraph (1) shall be given on the date on which such individual is sentenced by a State court.

(2) FEDERAL NOTIFICATION.—

(a) STATE NOTIFICATION.—On the date determined under paragraph (2), each State shall notify in writing any individual who has been convicted of a criminal offense under the law of that State that such individual has the right to vote in an election for Federal office pursuant to the Democracy Restoration Act of 2021 and may register to vote in any such election and provide such individual with any materials that are necessary to register to vote in any such election.

(b) DUE DATE OF NOTIFICATION.—

(A) FELONY CONVICTION.—In the case of such an individual who has been convicted of a felony, the notification required under paragraph (1) shall be given on the date on which the individual—

(i) is sentenced to serve only a term of probation;

(ii) is released from the custody of that State or the Federal Government to serve a term of imprisonment for a felony conviction.

(B) MISDEMEANOR CONVICTION.—In the case of such an individual who has been convicted of a misdemeanor, the notification required under paragraph (1) shall be given on the date on which such individual is sentenced by a State court.

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(a) STATE NOTIFICATION.—On the date determined under paragraph (2), each State shall notify in writing any individual who has been convicted of a criminal offense under the law of that State that such individual has the right to vote in an election for Federal office pursuant to the Democracy Restoration Act of 2021 and may register to vote in any such election and provide such individual with any materials that are necessary to register to vote in any such election.

(b) DUE DATE OF NOTIFICATION.—

(A) FELONY CONVICTION.—In the case of such an individual who has been convicted of a felony, the notification required under paragraph (1) shall be given on the date on which the individual—

(i) is sentenced to serve only a term of probation;

(ii) is released from the custody of that State or the Federal Government to serve a term of imprisonment for a felony conviction.

(B) MISDEMEANOR CONVICTION.—In the case of such an individual who has been convicted of a misdemeanor, the notification required under paragraph (1) shall be given on the date on which such individual is sentenced by a State court.

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(b) DUE DATE OF NOTIFICATION.—

(A) FELONY CONVICTION.—In the case of such an individual who has been convicted of a felony, the notification required under paragraph (1) shall be given on the date on which the individual—

(i) is sentenced to serve only a term of probation;

(ii) is released from the custody of that State or the Federal Government to serve a term of imprisonment for a felony conviction.

(B) MISDEMEANOR CONVICTION.—In the case of such an individual who has been convicted of a misdemeanor, the notification required under paragraph (1) shall be given on the date on which such individual is sentenced by a State court.

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(a) STATE NOTIFICATION.—On the date determined under paragraph (2), each State shall notify in writing any individual who has been convicted of a criminal offense under the law of that State that such individual has the right to vote in an election for Federal office pursuant to the Democracy Restoration Act of 2021 and may register to vote in any such election and provide such individual with any materials that are necessary to register to vote in any such election.

(b) DUE DATE OF NOTIFICATION.—

(A) FELONY CONVICTION.—In the case of such an individual who has been convicted of a felony, the notification required under paragraph (1) shall be given on the date on which the individual—

(i) is sentenced to serve only a term of probation;

(ii) is released from the custody of that State or the Federal Government to serve a term of imprisonment for a felony conviction.

(B) MISDEMEANOR CONVICTION.—In the case of such an individual who has been convicted of a misdemeanor, the notification required under paragraph (1) shall be given on the date on which such individual is sentenced by a State court.

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(b) DUE DATE OF NOTIFICATION.—

(A) FELONY CONVICTION.—In the case of such an individual who has been convicted of a felony, the notification required under paragraph (1) shall be given on the date on which the individual—

(i) is sentenced to serve only a term of probation;

(ii) is released from the custody of that State or the Federal Government to serve a term of imprisonment for a felony conviction.

(B) MISDEMEANOR CONVICTION.—In the case of such an individual who has been convicted of a misdemeanor, the notification required under paragraph (1) shall be given on the date on which such individual is sentenced by a State court.

(2) FEDERAL NOTIFICATION.—

(a) STATE NOTIFICATION.—On the date determined under paragraph (2), each State shall notify in writing any individual who has been convicted of a criminal offense under the law of that State that such individual has the right to vote in an election for Federal office pursuant to the Democracy Restoration Act of 2021 and may register to vote in any such election and provide such individual with any materials that are necessary to register to vote in any such election.

(b) DUE DATE OF NOTIFICATION.—

(A) FELONY CONVICTION.—In the case of such an individual who has been convicted of a felony, the notification required under paragraph (1) shall be given on the date on which the individual—

(i) is sentenced to serve only a term of probation;

(ii) is released from the custody of that State or the Federal Government to serve a term of imprisonment for a felony conviction.

(B) MISDEMEANOR CONVICTION.—In the case of such an individual who has been convicted of a misdemeanor, the notification required under paragraph (1) shall be given on the date on which such individual is sentenced by a State court.

(2) FEDERAL NOTIFICATION.—

(a) STATE NOTIFICATION.—On the date determined under paragraph (2), each State shall notify in writing any individual who has been convicted of a criminal offense under the law of that State that such individual has the right to vote in an election for Federal office pursuant to the Democracy Restoration Act of 2021 and may register to vote in any such election and provide such individual with any materials that are necessary to register to vote in any such election.

(b) DUE DATE OF NOTIFICATION.—

(A) FELONY CONVICTION.—In the case of such an individual who has been convicted of a felony, the notification required under paragraph (1) shall be given on the date on which the individual—

(i) is sentenced to serve only a term of probation;

(ii) is released from the custody of that State or the Federal Government to serve a term of imprisonment for a felony conviction.

(B) MISDEMEANOR CONVICTION.—In the case of such an individual who has been convicted of a misdemeanor, the notification required under paragraph (1) shall be given on the date on which such individual is sentenced by a State court.

(2) FEDERAL NOTIFICATION.—

(a) STATE NOTIFICATION.—On the date determined under paragraph (2), each State shall notify in writing any individual who has been convicted of a criminal offense under the law of that State that such individual has the right to vote in an election for Federal office pursuant to the Democracy Restoration Act of 2021 and may register to vote in any such election and provide such individual with any materials that are necessary to register to vote in any such election.

(b) DUE DATE OF NOTIFICATION.—

(A) FELONY CONVICTION.—In the case of such an individual who has been convicted of a felony, the notification required under paragraph (1) shall be given on the date on which the individual—

(i) is sentenced to serve only a term of probation;

(ii) is released from the custody of that State or the Federal Government to serve a term of imprisonment for a felony conviction.

(B) MISDEMEANOR CONVICTION.—In the case of such an individual who has been convicted of a misdemeanor, the notification required under paragraph (1) shall be given on the date on which such individual is sentenced by a State court.
(ii) in the case of any individual committed to the custody of the Bureau of Prisons, by the Director of the Bureau of Prisons, during the period beginning on the date that is 6 months before such individual is released and ending on the date such individual is released from the custody of the Bureau of Prisons.

(B) MISDEMEANOR CONVICTION.—In the case of such an individual who has been convicted of a misdemeanor, the notification required under paragraph (1) shall be given on the date on which such individual is sentenced by a court established by an Act of Congress.

SEC. 1406. DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this subtitle:

(1) CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION OR FACILITY.—The term 'correctional institution or facility means any prison, penitentiary, jail, or other institution or facility for the confinement of individuals convicted of criminal offenses, whether publicly or privately operated, except that such term does not include any residential community treatment center (or similar public or private facility).

(2) ELECTION.—The term 'election' means—

(A) a general, special, or, runoff election;

(B) a convention or caucus of a political party held by such political party;

(C) a primary election held for the selection of delegates to a national nominating convention of a political party; or

(D) a primary election held for the expression of a preference for the nomination of persons for election to the office of President.

(3) FEDERAL OFFICE.—The term 'Federal office' means the office of President or Vice President of the United States, or of Senator or Representative in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress of the United States.

(4) PROBATION.—The term 'probation' means probation, imposed by a Federal, State, or local court, with or without a condition on the individual involved concerning—

(A) the individual's freedom of movement;

(B) the payment of damages by the individual;

(C) periodic reporting by the individual to an officer of the court; or

(D) supervision of the individual by an officer of the court.

SEC. 1407. RELATION TO OTHER LAWS.

(a) STATE LAWS RELATING TO VOTING RIGHTS.—Nothing in this subtitle shall be construed to prohibit the States from enacting any State law which affords the right to vote in any election for Federal office on terms less restrictive than those required by this subtitle.

(b) CERTAIN FEDERAL ACTS.—The rights and remedies established by this subtitle are in addition to all other rights and remedies provided by law, and rights and remedies established under this Act shall supersede, restrict, or limit the application of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10301 et seq.) or the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20501 et seq.).

SEC. 1408. FEDERAL PRISON FUNDS.

No State, unit of local government, or other person may receive or use, to construct or otherwise improve a prison, jail, or other place of incarceration, any Federal prison funds unless that person has in effect a program under which each individual incarcerated in that person's jurisdiction who is a citizen of the United States is notified upon release from such incarceration, of that individual's rights under section 1403.

SEC. 1409. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This subtitle shall apply to citizens of the United States who cast an election by paper ballot held after the date of the enactment of this Act.

Subtitle F—Promoting Accuracy, Integrity, and Security Through Voter-Verified Permanent Paper Ballots

SEC. 1501. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the ‘‘Voter Confidence and Increased Accessibility Act of 2021’’.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 301(a)(2) of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 20181(a)(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following paragraphs:

"(2) PAPER BALLOT REQUIREMENT.—

(A) VOTER-VERIFIED PAPER BALLOTS.—(I) The voting system shall require the use of an individual, durable, voter-verified paper ballot of the voter's vote that shall be marked and made available for verification by the voter before the voter's vote is cast and counted, and which shall be counted by hand or read by an optical character recognition device or other counting device of this subsection, the term 'individual, durable, voter-verified paper ballot' means a paper ballot marked by the voter by hand or a paper ballot marked through the use of a nontabulating marking device or system, so long as the voter shall have the option to mark her or her ballot by hand.

(II) The voting system shall provide the voter with an opportunity to correct any error on the paper ballot before the permanent voter-verified paper ballot is preserved in accordance with clause (i).

(B) VOTER-VERIFIED PAPER BALLOTS.—(I) Each paper ballot used pursuant to clause (i) shall be suitable for a manual audit, and shall be counted by hand in any recount or audit conducted with respect to any election for Federal office in which the voting system is used.

(II) IN GENERAL.—In the event that there is an inconsistency or irregularity between any electronic vote tallies and the vote tallies determined by counting by hand the individual, durable, voter-verified paper ballots used pursuant to clause (i), and subject to subparagraph (B), the individual, durable, voter-verified paper ballots shall be the true and correct record of the votes cast.

(c) O THER CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 301(a)(3) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 20181(a)(3)) is amended by inserting "(in- cluding the paper ballots required to be used under paragraph (2))" after "voting system".

(2) in subparagraph (A)(ii), by striking "counted" and inserting "counted, in accordance with paragraphs (2) and (3)";

(3) in subparagraph (B)(iii), by striking "counted" and inserting "counted, in accordance with paragraphs (2) and (3)"; and

(4) in subparagraph (B)(iv), by striking "counting" and inserting "counted, in accordance with paragraphs (2) and (3)".

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT CLARIFYING APPLICATION OF ALTERNATIVE LANGUAGE ACCESSIBILITY.—Section 301(a)(4) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 20181(a)(4)) is amended by inserting "(including the paper ballots required to be used under paragraph (2))" after "voting system".

(b) RELATION TO OTHER LAWS.—This subtitle shall apply to citizens of the United States voting in any election for Federal office; and

(c) TO BE COMPROMISED.—Where paper ballots have been shown to be compromised, the election could be changed due to the compromised paper ballots.

重型陆军的兵力被集中到约定的交战区域，为后续的进攻做准备。
“(II) TREATMENT OF BALLOT.—Any paper ballot which is cast by an individual under this clause shall be counted and otherwise treated as a regular ballot for all purposes (including by incorporation in the returns of such election); and which is used voting machine shall automatically deposit the ballot into a privacy sleeve, subparagraph (A) shall apply to a voting machine for the jurisdiction as if the reference in such subparagraph to ‘any election for Federal office held in 2022 or any succeeding year’ were a reference to ‘elections for Federal office occurring in 2024 or each succeeding year’, but only with respect to paragraph (3)(B)(ii)(I) of subsection (a) (relating to nonmanual casting of the durable paper ballot).”

“Subtitle D—Provisional Ballots

SECTION 1601. REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING PROVISIONAL BALLOTS; ESTABLISHMENT OF UNIFORM AND NONDISCRIMINATORY STANDARDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 302 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 21082) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (f); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (d) the following new subsection:

“(III) TREATMENT OF BALLOT.—Any paper ballot which is cast by an individual under this clause shall be counted and otherwise treated as a regular ballot for all purposes (including by incorporation in the returns of such election); and which is used voting machine shall automatically deposit the ballot into a privacy sleeve, subparagraph (A) shall apply to a voting machine for the jurisdiction as if the reference in such subparagraph to ‘any election for Federal office held in 2022 or any succeeding year’ were a reference to ‘elections for Federal office occurring in 2024 or each succeeding year’, but only with respect to paragraph (3)(B)(ii)(I) of subsection (a) (relating to nonmanual casting of the durable paper ballot).”

Subtitle H—Early Voting

SECTION 1611. EARLY VOTING.

(a) REQUIREMENTS.—Subtitle A of title III of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 21082) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (f); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (d) the following new subsection:

“(III) TREATMENT OF BALLOT.—Any paper ballot which is cast by an individual under this clause shall be counted and otherwise treated as a regular ballot for all purposes (including by incorporation in the returns of such election); and which is used voting machine shall automatically deposit the ballot into a privacy sleeve, subparagraph (A) shall apply to a voting machine for the jurisdiction as if the reference in such subparagraph to ‘any election for Federal office held in 2022 or any succeeding year’ were a reference to ‘elections for Federal office occurring in 2024 or each succeeding year’, but only with respect to paragraph (3)(B)(ii)(I) of subsection (a) (relating to nonmanual casting of the durable paper ballot).”
(1) by redesignating sections 306 and 307 as sections 307 and 308; and
(2) by inserting after section 305 the following new section:

**SEC. 306. EARLY VOTING.**

(a) REQUIRING VOTING PRIOR TO DATE OF ELECTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Each State shall allow individuals to vote in an election for Federal office during an early voting period which occurs prior to the date of the election, in the same manner as voting is allowed on such date.

(2) LENGTH OF PERIOD.—The early voting period required under this subsection with respect to an election in which consists of a period of consecutive days (including weekends) which begins on the 15th day prior to the date of the election and ends on the date of the election.

(b) MINIMUM EARLY VOTING REQUIREMENTS.—Each polling place which allows voting during an early voting period under subsection (a) shall—

(1) allow such voting on no less than 10 hours each day; and
(2) have uniform hours each day for which such voting occurs; and
(3) allow such voting to be held for some period of time prior to 9:00 a.m. (local time) and some period of time after 5:00 p.m. (local time).

(c) LOCATION OF POLLING PLACES.—

(1) PROXIMITY TO PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION.—To the extent practicable, a State shall ensure that each polling place which allows voting during an early voting period under subsection (a) is located within walking distance of a stop on a public transportation route.

(2) AVAILABILITY IN RURAL AREAS.—The State shall ensure that polling places which allow voting during an early voting period under subsection (a) will be located in rural areas of the State, and shall ensure that such polling places are located in communities which will provide the greatest opportunity for residents of rural areas to vote during the early voting period.

(d) STANDARDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall issue standards for the administration of voting prior to the day scheduled for a Federal election. Such standards shall include the nondiscriminatory individual placement of polling places at which such voting occurs.

(2) DEVIATION.—The standards described in paragraph (1) shall permit States, upon providing the Chief State election official with information to demonstrate that such Standards are not necessary, to vary from any requirement in the case of unforeseen circumstances such as a natural disaster, terrorist attack, or a change in voter turnout.

(e) BALLOT PROCESSING AND SCANNING REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The State shall begin processing and scanning ballots cast during an election for Federal office held in November 2022 and each succeeding election for Federal office.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT RELATING TO ISSUANCE OF VOLUNTARY GUIDANCE BY ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION.—Section 321 (b) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 21101(b)), as redesignated and amended by section 305, is amended by striking "(b)" at the end of paragraph (3), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (3), and by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(4) except as provided in paragraph (4), in the case of the recommendations with respect to any section added by the For the People Act of 2021, June 30, 2022.

(c) CLERICAL REVISION.—The table of contents of such Act, as amended by section 1631(c) and section 1611(d), is amended—

(1) by redesignating the items relating to sections 306 and 307 as relating to sections 307 and 308; and
(2) by inserting after the item relating to section 305 the following new item:

"Sec. 306. Early Voting."

Subtitle I—Voting by Mail

SEC. 1621. VOTING BY MAIL.

(a) REQUIREMENTS.—Subtitle A of title III of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 21081 et seq.), as amended by section 1611(a), section 1101(a), and section 1611(c), is amended—

(1) by redesigning sections 307 and 308 as sections 308 and 309; and
(2) by inserting after section 306 the following new section:

**SEC. 307. PROMOTING ABILITY OF VOTERS TO VOTE BY MAIL.**

(a) UNIFORM AVAILABILITY OF ABSENTEE VOTING TO ALL VOTERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If an individual in a State is eligible to cast an absentee ballot for Federal office, the State may not impose any additional conditions or requirements on the eligibility of the individual to cast the vote in such election by absentee ballot.

(2) ADMINISTRATION OF VOTING BY MAIL.—

(A) PROHIBITING IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENT AS CONDITION OF OBTAINING BALLOT.—A State may not require an individual to provide any form of identification as a condition of obtaining an absentee ballot, except that nothing in this paragraph may be construed to prevent a State from requiring an individual to verify the identity or have some other defect, such ballot will not be counted; and

(ii) count the ballot if, prior to the expiration of the 10-day period which begins on the date the official notifies the individual that the ballot did not include a signature or has some other defect, other then a signature, the State or other official record or other document used by the State to verify the signatures of voters.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall apply with respect to elections for Federal office held in the State and at least one is affiliated with the political party whose candidate received the most votes in the most recent statewide election for Federal office held in the State and at least one is affiliated with the political party whose candidate received the most votes in the most recent statewide election for Federal office held in the State.

(4) REPORT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the end of a Federal election cycle, each Chief State election official shall submit to Congress and the Commission a reporting
the following information for the applicable Federal election cycle in the State:

(i) The number of ballots invalidated due to a discrepancy under this subsection.

(ii) The number of ballots that could not be counted due to a discrepancy under this subsection.

(iii) The number of ballots that were submitted after the deadline under subsection (d) of section 306.

(iv) The number of ballots that were returned without a signature or other required information.

(v) The number of ballots that were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid.

The State shall complete the report at the expiration of the periods prescribed in subsection (d) of section 306 and submit the report to the appropriate State or local election official.

(3) DEADLINE.—The report required under subsection (2) shall be submitted not later than three days after the date the record is completed.

(4) PUBLICATION.—The State shall publish a list of the names of the individuals whose ballots were returned without a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid.

(5) REQUIREMENTS.—The report required under subsection (2) shall include—

(A) the number of ballots that were returned without a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid.

(B) the number of ballots that were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid.

(C) the number of ballots that were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid due to a discrepancy under this subsection.

(D) the number of ballots that were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid due to a discrepancy under this subsection and were submitted after the deadline under subsection (d) of section 306.

(E) the number of ballots that were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid due to a discrepancy under this subsection and were returned without a signature or other required information.

(F) the number of ballots that were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid due to a discrepancy under this subsection and were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid.

(G) the number of ballots that were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid due to a discrepancy under this subsection and were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid.

(H) the number of ballots that were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid due to a discrepancy under this subsection and were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid.

(I) the number of ballots that were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid due to a discrepancy under this subsection and were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid.

(J) the number of ballots that were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid due to a discrepancy under this subsection and were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid.

(K) the number of ballots that were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid due to a discrepancy under this subsection and were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid.

(L) the number of ballots that were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid due to a discrepancy under this subsection and were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid.

(M) the number of ballots that were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid due to a discrepancy under this subsection and were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid.

(N) the number of ballots that were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid due to a discrepancy under this subsection and were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid.

(O) the number of ballots that were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid due to a discrepancy under this subsection and were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid.

(P) the number of ballots that were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid due to a discrepancy under this subsection and were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid.

(Q) the number of ballots that were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid due to a discrepancy under this subsection and were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid.

(R) the number of ballots that were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid due to a discrepancy under this subsection and were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid.

(S) the number of ballots that were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid due to a discrepancy under this subsection and were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid.

(T) the number of ballots that were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid due to a discrepancy under this subsection and were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid.

(U) the number of ballots that were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid due to a discrepancy under this subsection and were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid.

(V) the number of ballots that were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid due to a discrepancy under this subsection and were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid.

(W) the number of ballots that were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid due to a discrepancy under this subsection and were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid.

(X) the number of ballots that were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid due to a discrepancy under this subsection and were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid.

(Y) the number of ballots that were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid due to a discrepancy under this subsection and were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid.

(Z) the number of ballots that were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid due to a discrepancy under this subsection and were returned with a signature or other required information that was deemed invalid.

(a) REQUIREMENTS.—In general.—The State shall submit the report required under subsection (2) on or before the date specified by the United States Postal Service.

(b) By mail.—The State shall submit the report required under subsection (2) by mail to the appropriate State or local election official.

(c) Online.—The State shall submit the report required under subsection (2) online to the appropriate State or local election official.

(d) Access to the Website.—The State shall ensure that the report required under subsection (2) is accessible to the public through the appropriate State or local election official.

(e) Access to the Website.—The State shall ensure that the report required under subsection (2) is accessible to the public through the appropriate State or local election official.

(f) Access to the Website.—The State shall ensure that the report required under subsection (2) is accessible to the public through the appropriate State or local election official.

(g) Access to the Website.—The State shall ensure that the report required under subsection (2) is accessible to the public through the appropriate State or local election official.

(h) Access to the Website.—The State shall ensure that the report required under subsection (2) is accessible to the public through the appropriate State or local election official.

(i) Access to the Website.—The State shall ensure that the report required under subsection (2) is accessible to the public through the appropriate State or local election official.

(j) Access to the Website.—The State shall ensure that the report required under subsection (2) is accessible to the public through the appropriate State or local election official.

(k) Access to the Website.—The State shall ensure that the report required under subsection (2) is accessible to the public through the appropriate State or local election official.

(l) Access to the Website.—The State shall ensure that the report required under subsection (2) is accessible to the public through the appropriate State or local election official.

(m) Access to the Website.—The State shall ensure that the report required under subsection (2) is accessible to the public through the appropriate State or local election official.

(n) Access to the Website.—The State shall ensure that the report required under subsection (2) is accessible to the public through the appropriate State or local election official.

(o) Access to the Website.—The State shall ensure that the report required under subsection (2) is accessible to the public through the appropriate State or local election official.

(p) Access to the Website.—The State shall ensure that the report required under subsection (2) is accessible to the public through the appropriate State or local election official.

(q) Access to the Website.—The State shall ensure that the report required under subsection (2) is accessible to the public through the appropriate State or local election official.

(r) Access to the Website.—The State shall ensure that the report required under subsection (2) is accessible to the public through the appropriate State or local election official.

(s) Access to the Website.—The State shall ensure that the report required under subsection (2) is accessible to the public through the appropriate State or local election official.

(t) Access to the Website.—The State shall ensure that the report required under subsection (2) is accessible to the public through the appropriate State or local election official.

(u) Access to the Website.—The State shall ensure that the report required under subsection (2) is accessible to the public through the appropriate State or local election official.

(v) Access to the Website.—The State shall ensure that the report required under subsection (2) is accessible to the public through the appropriate State or local election official.

(w) Access to the Website.—The State shall ensure that the report required under subsection (2) is accessible to the public through the appropriate State or local election official.

(x) Access to the Website.—The State shall ensure that the report required under subsection (2) is accessible to the public through the appropriate State or local election official.

(y) Access to the Website.—The State shall ensure that the report required under subsection (2) is accessible to the public through the appropriate State or local election official.

(z) Access to the Website.—The State shall ensure that the report required under subsection (2) is accessible to the public through the appropriate State or local election official.
track and confirm the receipt of such ballots, and makes information on the receipt of such ballots available to the individual who cast the ballot, by means of online access using the Internet. In the case of an absentee ballot, the term "absentee ballot" means any ballot transmitted by a voter by mail in an election for Federal office, but does not include any ballot covered by section 306; and

(b) the term "election for Federal office" means a general, special, primary, or runoff election for the office of President or Vice President, or of Senator or Representative in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress.

(d) Nothing in this section may be construed to affect the treatment of any ballot or balloting materials transmitted to an individual who is entitled to vote by absentee ballot under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (52 U.S.C. 20301 et seq.).

(2) MAIL-IN BALLOTS AND POSTAL SERVICE BARCODE SERVICE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 3061 of title 39, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(p) Any ballot sent within the United States for an election for Federal office is nonmailable unless the ballot is mailed in an envelope that—

(1) contains a Postal Service barcode (or successive service or marking) that enables tracking of each individual ballot;

(2) satisfies requirements for ballot envelope design that the Postal Service may promulgate by regulation;

(3) satisfies requirements for machineable letters that the Postal Service may promulgate by regulation; and

(4) includes the Official Election Mail Logo (or any successor label that the Postal Service may establish for ballots)."

(B) APPLICATION.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to any election for Federal office occurring after the date of enactment of this Act.

(3) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 34 of such title is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 3606 the following:

"3407. Voting materials."

Subtitle J.—Absentee Uniformed Services Voters and Overseas Voters

SEC. 1701. PRE-ELECTION REPORTS ON AVAILABILITY AND TRANSMISSION OF ABSENTEE BALLOTS.

Section 102(c) of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (52 U.S.C. 20302(c)) is amended to read as follows:

"(c) REPORTS ON AVAILABILITY, TRANSMISSION, AND RECEIPT OF ABSENTEE BALLOTS.—

(1) PRE-ELECTION REPORT ON ABSENTEE BALLOT AVAILABILITY.—Not later than 55 days before any regularly scheduled general election for Federal office, each State shall submit a report to the Attorney General for the Administration Commission (hereafter in this subsection referred to as the 'Commission'), and the Presidential Designee, and make that report publicly available that same day, certifying that absentee ballots for the election are or will be available for transmission to absent uniformed services voters and overseas voters by not later than 34 days before the election. The report shall be in a form prescribed jointly by the Attorney General and the Commission and shall require the State to certify specific information about ballot availability from each unit of local government which will administer the election.

(2) PRE-ELECTION REPORT ON ABSENTEE BALLOT TRANSMISSION.—Not later than 40 days before the election, the Attorney General for the Administration Commission, and
the Presidential Designee, and make that report publicly available that same day, certifying whether all absentee ballots have been transmitted by not later than 45 days before the election to a State or local government that will administer the election, and make such information available to the general public that same day.’’.

‘‘(3) POST-ELECTION REPORT ON NUMBER OF ABSENTEE BALLOTS TRANSMITTED AND RECEIVED.—Section 105 of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (52 U.S.C. 20307) is amended to read as follows:

‘‘SEC. 105. ENFORCEMENT.

‘‘(a) ACTION BY ATTORNEY GENERAL.—

‘‘(1) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General may bring civil action in an appropriate district court of the United States for an injunction or injunctive relief as may be necessary to carry out this title.

‘‘(2) PENALTY.—In a civil action brought under paragraph (1), if the court finds that the State violated any provision of this title, it may, to vindicate the public interest, assess a civil penalty against the State.

‘‘(A) IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $110,000 FOR EACH SUCH VIOLATION OR

‘‘(B) IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $220,000 FOR EACH SUCH VIOLATION, FOR ANY SUBSEQUENT VIOLATION.

‘‘(3) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than December 31 of each year, the Attorney General shall submit to Congress an annual report on the number of absentee ballots transmitted and absentee voters whose requests were received at least 45 days before the election. The report shall be in a form prescribed jointly by the Attorney General and the Commission, and shall require the State to certify specific information about ballot transmission, including the total numbers of ballot requests received and ballots transmitted, from each unit of local government which will administer the election.

‘‘(4) CALL TO ACTION.—If a State fails to meet the requirement of subsection (a)(2)(A) to transmit a validly requested absentee ballot to an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter not later than 45 days before the election (in the case in which the request is received at least 45 days before the election).

‘‘(A) The State shall transmit the ballot to the voter by express delivery, or

‘‘(B) the case of a voter who has designated that absentee ballots be transmitted electronically in accordance with subsection (f)(1), the State shall transmit the ballot to the voter electronically.

‘‘(5) SPECIAL RULE FOR TRANSMISSION FEWER THAN 45 DAYS BEFORE THE ELECTION.—If, in carrying out paragraph (1), a State transmits an absentee ballot to an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter not later than the 45th day before the election, the State may satisfy the requirement of this paragraph by notifying the voter of the procedures for the collection and delivery of such ballots under section 103A.

‘‘(6) PENALTY FOR USE OF EXPRESS DELIVERY.—The State shall be responsible for the payment of costs associated with the use of express delivery for the transmittal of ballots under this subsection.

‘‘(c) CLARIFICATION OF TREATMENT OF WEEKENDS.—Section 105(d)(6)(A) of this Act (52 U.S.C. 20302(a)(6)(A)) is amended by striking ‘‘(the election);’’ and inserting the following: ‘‘(the election or, if the 45th day preceding the election is a weekend or legal public holiday, not later than the most recent weekday which precedes such 45th day and which is not a legal public holiday, but only if the request is received before 5 p.m. on the last weekday before the election).’’

‘‘SEC. 1704. USE OF SINGLE ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATION FOR SUBSEQUENT ELECTIONS.

‘‘(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 104 of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (52 U.S.C. 20306) is amended to read as follows:

‘‘SEC. 104. USE OF SINGLE ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATION FOR SUBSEQUENT ELECTIONS.

‘‘(a) IN GENERAL.—If a State accepts and processes an official post card form (prescribed under section 103A of this Act) from an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter for simultaneous voter registration and absentee ballot application (in accordance with section 102(a)(8)(A)) and the application be considered an application for an absentee ballot for each subsequent election for Federal office held in the State through the next regularly scheduled general election for Federal office (including any runoff elections which may occur as a result of the outcome of such general election), the State shall provide an absentee ballot to the voter for each such subsequent election.

‘‘(B) EXCEPTION FOR VOTERS CHANGING REGISTRATION.—Subsection (a) shall not apply with respect to any State that in any election held after the voter notifies the State that the voter no longer wishes to be registered to vote in the State or after the State determines that the voter is otherwise no longer eligible to vote in the State.

‘‘(c) AFFIRMATION.—The State may not transmit a ballot to a qualified individual under this section unless the individual provides the State with a signed affirmation in electronic form that

‘‘(A) the individual is a qualified individual (as defined in subsection (b));

‘‘(B) the individual has not and will not cast another ballot with respect to the election; and

‘‘(C) acknowledges that a material misstatement of fact in completing the ballot...
may constitute grounds for conviction of perjury.

“(4) **Clarification regarding free post-age.—** An absentee ballot obtained by a qualified individual shall be considered balloting materials as defined in section 107 for purposes of section 3406 of title 39, United States Code.

“(5) **Prohibiting refusal to accept ballot for failure to meet certain requirements.—** A State shall not refuse to accept and process any otherwise valid blank absentee ballot which was tendered to a qualified individual in this section and used by the individual to vote in the election solely on the basis of the following requirements:

(A) Notification or witness signature requirements.

(B) Restrictions on paper type, including weight and size.

(C) Restrictions on envelope type, including weight and size.

(D) **Qualified individual.—**

(1) **In general.—** In this section, except as provided in paragraph (2), the term ‘qualified individual’ means any individual who is otherwise hospitalized on the date of the election and who meets any of the following requirements:

(A) **The individual.—**

(i) resides in a State with respect to which an emergency or public health emergency has been declared by the chief executive of the State or of the area involved within 5 days of the date of the election due to reasons including a natural disaster, including severe weather, or an infectious disease; and

(ii) has not previously requested an absentee ballot at least 2 days before the date of the election.

(B) **The individual.—**

(i) resides in a State with respect to which an emergency or public health emergency has been declared by the chief executive of the State or of the area involved within 5 days of the date of the election due to reasons including a natural disaster, including severe weather, or an infectious disease; and

(ii) has not previously requested an absentee ballot.

(C) The individual expects to be absent from this individual’s jurisdiction on the date of the election due to professional or volunteer service.

(D) The individual is hospitalized or expects to be hospitalized or expects an infectious disease; and

(E) The individual is an individual with a disability (as defined in section 3 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12102)) and resides in a State which does not provide training to individuals with disabilities, including those with limited English proficiency, diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds, disabilities, and regardless of gender, sexual orientation, or gender identity. These methods must ensure that each voter will have access to poll worker services that are delivered in a manner that meets the unique needs of the voter.

(E) **The individual is an individual with a disability (as defined in section 3 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12102)) and resides in a State which does not provide training to individuals with disabilities, including those with limited English proficiency, diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds, disabilities, and regardless of gender, sexual orientation, or gender identity. These methods must ensure that each voter will have access to poll worker services that are delivered in a manner that meets the unique needs of the voter.

(F) **Exclusion of absent uniformed services and overseas voters.—** The term ‘qualified individual’ shall not include an absent uniformed services voter or an overseas voter.

(G) **State.—** For purposes of this section, the term ‘State’ includes the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the United States Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

(H) **Effective date.—** This section shall apply with respect to the regularly scheduled primary election for Federal office held in November 2022 and each succeeding general election for Federal office.”.

(b) **Conforming amendment.—** Section 102(a) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 20002(a)) is amended—

(1) **by striking ‘‘and’’ at the end of paragraph (10);**

(2) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (14) and inserting ‘‘; and’’; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

(12) meet the requirements of section 103C with respect to the provision of blank absentee ballots for the use of qualified individuals described in such section.”.

(c) **Clerical amendments.—** The table of contents of such Act is amended by inserting the following after section 103:

“Sec. 101A. Procedures for collection and delivery of unmarked absentee ballots.

“Sec. 101B. Federal voting assistance program.

“Sec. 101C. Transmission of blank absentee ballots to certain other voters.”.

SEC. 1707. EFFECTIVE DATE.

Except as provided in section 1702(b) and subsection (b) of section 1704(b), the amendments made by this subtitle shall apply with respect to elections occurring on or after January 1, 2022.

Subtitle K—Poll Worker Recruitment and Training

SEC. 1801. GRANTS TO STATES FOR POLL WORKER RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING.

(a) **Grants by Election Assistance Commission.—**

(1) **In general.—** The Election Assistance Commission (hereafter referred to as the ‘‘Commission’’) shall, subject to the availability of appropriations provided to carry out this section, make a grant to each eligible State for recruiting and training individuals to serve as poll workers on dates of elections for public office.

(2) **Use of funds.—** In carrying out activities with a grant provided under this section, the recipient of the grant shall use the methods prescribed by the Commission on successful practices for poll worker recruiting, training and retention as an interactive training tool, and shall develop training programs with the participation and input of experts in adult learning.

(3) **Access and cultural considerations.—** The Commission shall ensure that the methods prescribed in paragraph (2) provide training in methods that will enable poll workers to provide access and delivery of services in a culturally competent manner to all voters who use their services, including those with limited English proficiency, diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds, disabilities, and regardless of gender, sexual orientation, or gender identity. These methods must ensure that each voter will have access to poll worker services that are delivered in a manner that meets the unique needs of the voter.

(b) **Requirements for eligibility.—**

(1) **Application.—** Each State that desires to receive a payment under this section shall submit an application to the Commission at such time and in such manner and containing such information as the Commission shall require.

(2) **Contents of application.—** Each application submitted under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) describe the activities for which assistance under this section is sought;

(B) provide assurances that the funds provided under this section will be used to supplant and not supplant other funds used to carry out the activities;

(C) provide assurances that the State will furnish the Commission with information on the number of individuals who served as poll workers after receiving training with the funds provided under this section; and

(D) provide such additional information and certifications as the Commission determines to be necessary to ensure compliance with the requirements of this section.

(c) **Amount of grant.—**

(1) **In general.—** The amount of a grant made to a State under this section shall be equal to—

(A) the voting age population of the State (as determined on the basis of the most recent information available from the Bureau of the Census); and

(B) the total voting age population of all States (as determined on the basis of the most recent information available from the Bureau of the Census).

(d) **Reports to Congress.—**

(1) **Reports by recipients of grants.—** Not later than 6 months after the date on which the final grant is made under this section, each recipient of a grant shall submit a report to the Commission on the activities conducted with the funds provided by the grant.

(2) **Reports by Commission.—** Not later than 1 year after the date on which the final grant is made under this section, the Commission shall submit a report to Congress on the grants made under this section and the activities carried out by recipients with the grants, and shall include in the report such recommendations as the Commission considers appropriate.

(e) **Funding.—**

(1) **Continuing availability of amount appropriated.—** Any amount appropriated to carry out this section shall remain available without fiscal year limitation until expended.

(2) **Administrative expenses.—** Of the amount appropriated for any fiscal year to carry out this section, not more than 3 percent shall be available for administrative expenses of the Commission.

SEC. 1802. STATE DEFINED.

In this subtitle, the term ‘‘State’’ includes the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the United States Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Subtitle L—Enhancement of Enforcement

SEC. 1811. ENHANCEMENT OF ENFORCEMENT OF HELP AMERICA VOTE ACT OF 2002.

(a) **Complaints; availability of private right of action.—** Section 401 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 21111) is amended—

(1) **by striking ‘‘The Attorney General’’ and inserting ‘‘(a) in general.—The Attorney General;’’; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsections:

(‘‘b) Filing of complaints by aggrieved person.—‘‘

(1) **In general.—** A person who is aggrieved by a violation of title III which has occurred, is occurring, or is about to occur may file a written complaint with the Attorney General describing the violation and requesting the Attorney General to take appropriate action under this section. The Attorney General shall immediately provide a copy of a complaint filed under the previous sentence to the entity responsible for administering the State-based administrative complaint procedures described in section 402(a) for the State involved.

(2) **Response by attorney general.—** The Attorney General shall respond to each complaint filed under paragraph (1) with procedures established by the Attorney General that require responses and determinations to be made within the same (or shorter) deadlines which apply to a State under the State-based administrative complaint procedures described in section 402a(2). The Attorney General shall immediately provide a copy of the response made under the previous sentence to the entity responsible for administering the State-based administrative complaint procedures described in section 402(a) for the State involved.

(‘‘c) Availability of private right of action.—** Any person who is authorized to file a complaint under subsection (b)(1) (including a State or individual who seeks to enforce the individual’s right to a voter-certified paper ballot, the right to have the voter-certified paper ballot
Subtitle N—Promoting Voter Access Through Election Administration Improvements

PART 1—PROMOTING VOTER ACCESS

SEC. 1901. TREATMENT OF INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

(a) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN INSTITUTIONS AS VOTER REGISTRATION AGENCIES UNDER NATIONA

L VOTER REGISTRATION ACT OF 1993.—Section 7(a) of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (2 U.S.C. 1975) is amended—

(1) by striking "and" at the end of subparagraph (B); and

(2) by striking the period at the end of such section and inserting "; and the Secretary may award competitive grants to institutions of higher education to promote voter registration by students, as follows:

(1) Sponsoring large on-campus voter mobilization efforts,

(2) Engaging the surrounding community in nonpartisan voter registration and get out the vote efforts,

(3) Creating a website for students with centralized information about voter registration and election dates.

(b) RESPONSIBILITIES OF INSTITUTIONS UNDER HIGHER EDUCATION ACT OF 1965.—In general, the Chief State Election Administration Official shall transmit the message under such paragraph to the Secretary of Education for inclusion in the Campus Vote Coordinator website.

(c) ACTIVE PART IN POLITICAL MANAGEMENT OR IN A POLITICAL CAMPAIGN.—The term "active part in political management or in a political campaign" means—

(1) holding any position (including any unpaid or honorary position) with an authorized committee of a candidate, or participating in any decision-making of an authorized committee of a candidate;

(2) the use of official authority or influence for the purpose of interfering with or affecting the result of an election for Federal office;

(3) acceptance, or receipt of a contribution from any person on behalf of a candidate for Federal office; and

(4) any other act which would be prohibited under paragraph (2) or (3) of section 7223(b) of title 5, United States Code, if taken by any person or office over which such official has supervisory authority.

(b) CHIEF STATE ELECTION ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL.—The term "chief State election administration official" means the highest State official with the responsibility for the administration of Federal elections under State law.

(c) ACTIVE PART IN POLITICAL MANAGEMENT OR IN A POLITICAL CAMPAIGN.—The term "active part in political management or in a political campaign" means—

(1) holding any position (including any unpaid or honorary position) with an authorized committee of a candidate, or participating in any decision-making of an authorized committee of a candidate;

(2) the use of official authority or influence for the purpose of interfering with or affecting the result of an election for Federal office;

(3) acceptance, or receipt of a contribution from any person on behalf of a candidate for Federal office; and

(4) any other act which would be prohibited under paragraph (2) or (3) of section 7223(b) of title 5, United States Code, if taken by any person or office over which such official has supervisory authority.

(2) Chief State Election Administration Official.—The term "chief State election administration official" means the highest State official with the responsibility for the administration of Federal elections under State law.

(3) RESPONSIBILITIES OF INSTITUTIONS UNDER SEC. 1902. MINIMUM NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTERS AFFECTED BY POLLING PLACE CHANGES.

(a) REQUIREMENTS.—Section 309(b) of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 20502), as amended by section 201(a) of the Act, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (b); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (a) the following new subsection:

"(f) MINIMUM NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTERS AFFECTED BY POLLING PLACE CHANGES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If a State assigns an individual who is a registered voter in a State to a polling place with respect to an election for Federal office which is not the same polling place to which the individual was previously assigned with respect to the most recent election for Federal office in the State in which the individual was eligible to vote—

(A) the State shall notify the individual of the location of the polling place not later than 7 days before the date of the election, but not more than 7 days before the date of the election of the first day of an early voting period (whichever occurs first); or
“(B) if the State makes such an assignment fewer than 7 days before the date of the election and the individual appears on the date of the election at the polling place to which the individual is assigned, the State shall make every reasonable effort to enable the individual to vote on the date of the election.

(2) METHODS OF NOTIFICATION.—The State shall provide notice under subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) by mail, telephone, and, if available, text message and electronic mail.

(3) PLACEMENT OF SIGNS AT CLOSED POLLING PLACES.—If a location which served as a polling place in an election for Federal office does not serve as a polling place in the next election for Federal office held in the jurisdiction involved, the State or local election official with a sworn written statement to meet identification requirements for voting.

(a) PERMITTING USE OF STATEMENT.—Title III of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 21082(g)), as redesignated by section 1072(b) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 21082(b)(2)), as amended by section 1072(b) and section 1202(b), is amended—

(1) by striking “and” at the end of subparagraph (G);

(2) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (H) and inserting “; and”;

and (3) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(I) in the case of a State that has in effect a requirement that an individual present identification as a condition of receiving and casting a ballot in an election for Federal office, the State shall permit the individual to meet the requirement—

(A) if the individual desires to vote in person, by presenting the appropriate State or local election official with a sworn written statement, signed by the individual under penalty of perjury, attesting to the individual’s identity and attesting that the individual is eligible to vote in the election; or

(B) in the case of an individual who desires to vote by mail, by submitting with the ballot the statement described in subparagraph (A).

(2) DEVELOPMENT OF PRE-PRINTED VERSION OF STATEMENT BY COMMISSION.—The Commission shall prepare a pre-printed version of the statement described in paragraph (1)(A) which includes a blank space for an individual to provide a name and signature for use by election officials in States which are subject to paragraph (1).

(3) PROVIDING PRE-PRINTED COPY OF STATEMENT.—A State which is subject to paragraph (1) shall—

(A) make copies of the pre-printed version of the statement described in paragraph (1)(A) which is prepared by the Commission available at polling places for election officials to distribute to individuals who desire to vote in person;

and

(B) include a copy of such pre-printed version of the statement with each blank absentee or other ballot transmitted to an individual who desires to vote by mail.

(4) USE OF BALLOT IN SAME MANNER AS INDIVIDUALS PRESENTING IDENTIFICATION.—An individual who presents or submits a sworn written statement in accordance with subsection (a)(1) shall be permitted to cast a ballot in the election in the same manner as an individual who presents identification.

(5) EXEMPTION FROM ELECTION LAW.—Nothing in this section alters the ability of a tribal election official to allow a Federal voter residing on Indian lands to request a ballot in a manner available to all other voters in the State.

(b) REQUIRING STATES TO INCLUDE INFORMATION ON USE OF SWORN WRITTEN STATEMENT IN VOTING INFORMATION MATERIAL DISTRIBUTED AT POLLING PLACES.—Section 302(b)(2) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 21082(b)(2)), as amended by section 1072(b) and section 1202(b), is amended—

(1) by striking “and” at the end of subparagraph (G);

(2) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (H) and inserting “; and”;

and (3) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(I) in the case of a State that has in effect a requirement that an individual present identification as a condition of receiving and casting a ballot in an election for Federal office, information on how an individual may meet such requirement by presenting a sworn written statement in accordance with section 303A.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents of such Act is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 303 the following new item:

“Sec. 303A. Permitting use of sworn written statement to meet identification requirements.

(a) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This subsection shall apply with respect to elections occurring on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) METHODS OF NOTIFICATION.—The State or political subdivision shall notify an individual under subparagraph (A) of section 303B(a) of such Act (43 U.S.C. 1602) or by a Village Corporation that is associated with an Indian Tribe (as defined in section 3 of that Act (43 U.S.C. 1602));

and

(c) EXCEPTION FOR FIRST-TIME VOTERS REGGISTERED WITH THE VOTE.—An individual may be permitted to vote by giving a name and signature for use by election officials in States which are subject to paragraph (1) if—

(A) the individual specifies that the individual is a first-time voter;

(B) the individual provides a name and signature for use by state election officials in States which are subject to paragraph (1);

(C) the individual provides a name and signature for use by federal election officials for voting in elections for Federal office; and

(D) the individual certifies that the individual is a first-time voter with respect to Federal elections.

(2) EXCEPTION FOR FIRST-TIME VOTERS REGISTERED WITH THE VOTE.—An individual may be permitted to vote by giving a name and signature for use by election officials in States which are subject to paragraph (1) if—

(A) the individual specifies that the individual is a first-time voter;

(B) the individual provides a name and signature for use by state election officials in States which are subject to paragraph (1);

(C) the individual provides a name and signature for use by federal election officials for voting in elections for Federal office; and

(D) the individual certifies that the individual is a first-time voter with respect to Federal elections.

(E) INCLUSION.—The term “Indian lands” includes—

(i) any Indian country of an Indian Tribe, as defined under section 1151 of title 18, United States Code;

(ii) any land in Alaska owned, pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.), by an Indian Tribe that is designated as an Indian village (as defined in section 3 of that Act (43 U.S.C. 1602)) or by a Village Corporation that is associated with an Indian Tribe (as defined in section 3 of that Act (43 U.S.C. 1602));

and

(ii) any land on which the seat of the Tribal Government is located; and

(iv) any land that is part of or all of a Tribal designated statistical area associated with an Indian Tribe, or part of an Alaska Native village statistical area associated with an Indian Tribe, as defined by the Census Bureau for the purposes of the most recent decennial census.

(3) PROVISION OF MAIL-IN AND ABSENTEE BALLOTS ON REQUEST.—(A) ACCOMMODATIONS DESCRIBED.—(1) DESIGNATION OF BALLOT PICKUP AND COLLECTION LOCATIONS.—The office shall collect ballots from those locations.

(2) USE OF DESIGNATED BUILDING AS RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.—The office shall collect ballots from those locations.

(3) USE OF DESIGNATED BUILDING AS RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.—The office shall collect ballots from those locations.

(4) USE OF DESIGNATED BUILDING AS RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.—The office shall collect ballots from those locations.

(5) USE OF DESIGNATED BUILDING AS RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.—The office shall collect ballots from those locations.

(6) USE OF DESIGNATED BUILDING AS RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.—The office shall collect ballots from those locations.

(7) USE OF DESIGNATED BUILDING AS RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.—The office shall collect ballots from those locations.

(8) USE OF DESIGNATED BUILDING AS RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.—The office shall collect ballots from those locations.

(9) USE OF DESIGNATED BUILDING AS RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.—The office shall collect ballots from those locations.

(10) USE OF DESIGNATED BUILDING AS RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.—The office shall collect ballots from those locations.

(11) USE OF DESIGNATED BUILDING AS RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.—The office shall collect ballots from those locations.

(b) METHODS OF NOTIFICATION.—The State or political subdivision shall notify an Indian Tribe of the availability of residential mail delivery in Indian Country, an Indian Tribe may designate buildings as ballot pickup and collection locations with respect to an election voting assistance, and written translation of the applicable minority group, as required by section 203 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10603), as amended by subsection (b).

6) PROVISION OF MAIL-IN AND ABSENTEE BALLOTS ON REQUEST.—(A) ACCOMMODATIONS DESCRIBED.—(1) DESIGNATION OF BALLOT PICKUP AND COLLECTION LOCATIONS.—The office shall collect ballots from those locations.

(2) USE OF DESIGNATED BUILDING AS RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.—The office shall collect ballots from those locations.

(3) USE OF DESIGNATED BUILDING AS RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.—The office shall collect ballots from those locations.

(4) USE OF DESIGNATED BUILDING AS RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.—The office shall collect ballots from those locations.

(5) USE OF DESIGNATED BUILDING AS RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.—The office shall collect ballots from those locations.

(6) USE OF DESIGNATED BUILDING AS RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.—The office shall collect ballots from those locations.

(7) USE OF DESIGNATED BUILDING AS RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.—The office shall collect ballots from those locations.

(b) METHODS OF NOTIFICATION.—The State or political subdivision shall provide absentee or mail-in voting materials under section 303A of such Act (52 U.S.C. 21082).
or Tribal Government may bring a civil action in an appropriate district court for declaratory or injunctive relief with respect to the violation without providing notice to the chief election official of the applicable State or political subdivision.

(b) **Bilingual Election Requirements.**—Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 1973tt) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(3)(C), by striking ‘‘1990’’ and inserting ‘‘2019’’; and

(2) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following:

(c) **Provision of Voting Materials in the Language of a Minority Group.**—

(1) the Attorney General shall ensure that any State or political subdivision subject to the prohibition of subsection (b) of this section provides any registration or voting notices, forms, instructions, assistance to individuals or information relating to the electoral process, including ballots, it shall provide them in the language of the applicable minority group as well as in the English language.

(2) **Exceptions.**—

(A) in the case of a minority group that is not American Indian or Alaska Native and the language of that minority group is oral or unwritten, the State or political subdivision shall only be required to furnish, in the covered language, assistance to individuals or information relating to registration and voting.

(B) in the case of a minority group that is American Indian or Alaska Native, the State or political subdivision shall only be required to furnish in the covered language oral instructions, assistance, or other information relating to registration and voting, including ballots, voting materials, if the Tribal Government of that minority group has certified that the language of the applicable American Indian or Alaska Native language is required pursuant to the Tribal Government does not want written translations in the minority language.

(3) **Translation of Election Resources.**—Notwithstanding paragraph (2), the State or political division may be required to provide written translations of voting materials, with the consent of any applicable Indian Tribe, to election workers to ensure that the translations from English to the language of the minority group are complete, accurate, and uniform.

(4) **Effective Date.**—This section and the amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to the regularly scheduled general election held in November 2020, and each succeeding election for Federal office.

**SEC. 1905. VOTER INFORMATION RESPONSE SYSTEMS AND HOTLINES.**

(a) **Establishment and Operation of Systems and Services.**—

(1) **State-Based Response Systems.**—The Attorney General shall coordinate the establishment of a State-based response system for responding to questions and complaints from individuals voting or seeking to vote, or registering to vote, in elections for Federal office. Such system shall provide—

(A) State-specific, same-day, and immediate assistance to such individuals, including information on how to vote, the location and hours of operation of polling places, and how to obtain absentee ballots; and

(B) State-specific, same-day, and immediate assistance to individuals encountering problems with registering to vote or voting, including individuals encountering intimidation or deceptive practices.

(b) **Hotline.**—The Attorney General, in consultation with State election officials, shall establish and operate a toll-free telephone service, using such sums as may be necessary to carry out this section, with an emphasis on outreach to individuals with disabilities and individuals with limited proficiency in the English language.

(c) **Authorization of Appropriations.**—

(1) Authorization.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Attorney General for fiscal year 2021 and each succeeding fiscal year such sums as may be necessary to carry out this section.

(2) Set-Aside for Outreach.—Of the amounts appropriated to carry out this section for a fiscal year pursuant to the authorization under paragraph (1), not less than 15 percent shall be used for outreach activities to make the polling place and other aspects of the toll-free telephone service established under this section, with an emphasis on outreach to individuals with disabilities and individuals with limited proficiency in the English language.

**SEC. 1906. ENSURING EQUITABLE AND EFFICIENT OPERATION OF POLLING PLACES.**

(a) **In General.**—Subtitle A of title III of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 20801 et seq.), as amended by section 103(a), section 110(a), section 161I(a), section 162I(a), section 1622(a), and section 1623(a), is amended—

(1) by redesignating sections 310 and 311 as sections 311 and 312, and

(2) by inserting after section 309 the following new section:

**SEC. 310. ENSURING EQUITABLE AND EFFICIENT OPERATION OF POLLING PLACES.**

(1) **Preventing Unreasonable Waiting Times for Voters.**—

(A) In General.—Each State shall provide a sufficient number of polling places, polling place officials, and other election resources (including physical resources) at a polling place used in any election for Federal office, including a polling place at which individuals may submit ballots prior to the date of the election, to ensure—

(A) a fair and equitable waiting time for all voters in the State; and

(B) that individual shall be required to wait longer than 30 minutes to cast a ballot at the polling place.
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"(2) Criteria.—In determining the number of voting systems, poll workers, and other election resources provided at a polling place for purposes of paragraph (1), the State shall take into account the following factors:

(A) The voting age population.

(B) Voter turnout in past elections.

(C) The number of voters registered.

(D) The number of voters who have registered since the most recent Federal election.

(E) Census data for the population served by the polling place, such as the proportion of the voting-age population who are under 25 years of age or who are naturalized citizens.

(F) The needs and numbers of voters with disabilities and voters with limited English proficiency.

(G) The type of voting systems used.

(H) The length and complexity of initiatives, referenda, and other questions on the ballot.

(I) Such other factors, including relevant demographic factors relating to the population served by the polling place, as the State considers appropriate.

(3) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection may be construed to authorize a State to meet the requirements of this subsection by closing any polling place, prohibiting an individual from entering a line at a polling place, or refusing to permit an individual who has arrived at the polling place prior to closing time from voting at the polling place.

(4) GUIDELINES.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this section, the Commission shall establish and publish guidelines to assist States in meeting the requirements of this subsection.

(5) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This subsection shall take effect upon the expiration of the 180-day period which begins on the date of the enactment of this subsection, without regard to whether or not the Commission has established and published guidelines under paragraph (4).

(b) LIMITING VARIATIONS ON NUMBER OF HOURS OF OPERATION OF POLLING PLACES WITHIN A STATE.—

(1) In general.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B) and paragraph (2), each State shall establish hours of operation for all polling places in the State on the date of any election for Federal office held in the State such that the polling place with the greatest number of hours of operation is not in operation for more than 2 hours longer than the polling place with the fewest number of hours of operation on such date.

(2) LIMITING VARIANCE ON BASIS OF POPULATION.—Subparagraph (A) does not apply to the extent that the State establishes variations in the hours of operation of polling places on the basis of the proportion of the voting-age population as the State may select of the unit of local government in which such polling places are located.

(3) EXCEPTIONS FOR POLLING PLACES WITH HOURS ESTABLISHED BY UNITS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—Paragraph (1) does not apply in the case of a polling place operated:

(A) by a unit of local government, which is in operation in accordance with State law, by the unit of local government in which the polling place is located;

(B) prior to a court to extend its hours of operation beyond the hours otherwise established.

(4) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents of this Act, as amended by section 1031(c), section 1101(c), section 1611(c), section 1621(c), and section 1623(c), and section 1623(a), is amended—

(1) by redesignating sections 311 and 312 as sections 311 and 312; and

(2) by inserting after the item relating to section 309 the following new item:

"Sec. 310. Ensuring equitable and efficient operation of polling places."

SEC. 1907. REQUIRING STATES TO PROVIDE SECURED DROP BOXES FOR VOTED ABSENTEE BALLOTS.

(a) REQUIREMENT.—Subtitle A of title III of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 20801 et seq.), amended by section 1611(a), section 1621(a), section 1622(a), section 1623(a), and section 1906(a), is amended—

(1) by redesignating sections 311 and 312 as sections 311 and 312; and

(2) by inserting after section 310 the following new section:

"SEC. 311. USE OF SECURED DROP BOXES FOR VOTED ABSENTEE BALLOTS.

(1) REQUIRING USE OF DROP BOXES.—In each county in the State, each State shall provide in-person, secured, and clearly labeled drop boxes at which individuals may, at any time during the period described in subsection (b), drop off voted absentee ballots in an election for Federal office.

(B) MINIMUM PERIOD FOR AVAILABILITY OF DROP BOXES.—The period described in this subsection is, with respect to an election, the period which begins 45 days before the date of the election and which ends at the time the polls close for the election in the county involved.

(C) ACCESSIBILITY.

(1) IN GENERAL.—Each State shall ensure that the drop boxes provided under this section are accessible for use—

(A) by individuals with disabilities, as determined in accordance with the protection and advocacy systems (as defined in section 102 of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 15002)) of the State; and

(B) by individuals with limited proficiency in the English language.

(2) DETERMINATION OF ACCESSIBILITY FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES.—For purposes of this subsection, drop boxes shall be considered to be accessible for use by individuals with disabilities if the drop boxes meet such criteria as the Attorney General may establish for such purposes.

(3) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—If a State provides a drop box under this section on the grounds of or inside a building or facility which serves as a polling place for an election during the period described in subsection (b), nothing in this subsection may be construed to waive any requirements as to the accessibility of such polling place for the use of individuals with disabilities or individuals with limited proficiency in the English language.

(4) NUMBER OF DROP BOXES provided under this section shall be determined as follows:

(A) The number of individuals who are registered to vote in the election is equal to or greater than 20,000, the number of drop boxes shall be a number equal to or greater than the number of such individuals divided by 20,000 (rounded to the nearest whole number).

(B) In the case of any other county, the number of drop boxes shall be equal to or greater than one.

(5) TIMING.—For purposes of this subsection, the number of individuals who reside in a county and who are registered to vote in the election shall be determined as of the 90th day before the date of the election.

(6) LOCATION OF DROP BOXES.—The State shall determine the location of drop boxes provided under this section in a county under the following criteria which ensure that the drop boxes are—

(A) available to all voters on a non-discriminatory basis.

(B) accessible to voters with disabilities (in accordance with subsection (c));

(C) accessible by public transportation to the greatest extent possible;

(D) available during all hours of the day; and

(E) sufficiently available in all communities in the county, including rural communities and on Tribal lands within the county (subject to subsection (f)).

(7) RULES FOR DROP BOXES ON TRIBAL LANDS.—In making a determination of the number and location of drop boxes provided under this section on Tribal lands in a county, the appropriate State and local election officials shall—

(1) consult with Tribal leaders prior to making the determination; and

(2) take into account criteria such as the availability of direct-to-door residential mail delivery, the distance and time necessary to travel to the drop box locations (including in inclement weather), modes of transportation available, conditions of roads, and the availability (if any) of public transportation.

(8) TIMING OF SCANNING AND PROCESSING OF BALLOTS.—For purposes of section 306(e)(relating to the timing of the processing and scanning of ballots for tabulation), a vote cast using a drop box provided under this section shall be treated in the same manner as any other vote cast during early voting.

(9) POSTING OF INFORMATION.—On or adjacent to each drop box provided under this section, the State shall post information on the requirements that voted absentee ballots must meet in order to be counted and tabulated in the election.

(10) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall apply with respect to the regularly scheduled general election for Federal office held in November 2022 and each succeeding election for Federal office.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents of such Act, as amended by section 1031(c), section 1101(d), section 1611(c), section 1621(c), section 1622(c), section 1623(c), section 1623(a), and section 1906(b), is amended—

(1) by redesignating sections 311 and 312 as sections 311 and 312; and

(2) by inserting after the item relating to section 310 the following new item:

"Sec. 311. Use of secured drop boxes for voted absentee ballots."

SEC. 1908. PROHIBITING STATES FROM RESTRICTING CURBSIDE VOTING.

(a) REQUIREMENT.—Subtitle A of title III of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 20801 et seq.), amended by section 1611(a), section 1621(a), section 1622(a), section 1623(a), section 1623(c), section 1623(a), and section 1906(a), is amended—

(1) by redesignating sections 312 and 313 as sections 312 and 313; and

(2) by inserting after section 311 the following new section:

"SEC. 312. PROHIBITING STATES FROM RESTRICTING CURBSIDE VOTING.

(1) PROHIBITION.—A State may not—

(A) prohibit any jurisdiction administering an election for Federal office in the State from utilizing curbside voting as a method by which individuals may cast ballots in the election; or

(B) impose any restrictions which would exclude any individual who is eligible to vote in such an election in a jurisdiction which utilizes curbside voting from casting a ballot in the election by the method of curbside voting.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall apply with respect to the regularly scheduled general election for Federal office held in November 2022 and each succeeding election for Federal office.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents of such Act, as amended by section 1031(c), section 1101(d), section 1611(c), section 1621(c), section 1622(c), section 1623(a), section 1906(b), and section 1907(b), is amended—
(1) by redesignating the items relating to sections 312 and 313 as relating to sections 313 and 314; and
(2) by inserting after the item relating to section 314 the following new item: "Sec. 312. Prohibiting States from restricting curbside voting.";

SEC. 1909. ELECTION DAY AS LEGAL PUBLIC HOLIDAY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 6103(a) of title 5, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to Columbus Day the following:

"Election Day, the Tuesday next after the first Monday in November of every even-numbered year.''

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to the regularly scheduled general elections for Federal office held in November 2022 or any succeeding year.

PART II—DISASTER AND EMERGENCY CONTINGENCY PLANS

SEC. 1911. REQUIREMENTS FOR FEDERAL ELECTION CONTINGENCY PLANS IN RESPONSE TO NATURAL DISASTERS AND EMERGENCIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, each State and each jurisdiction in a State which is responsible for administering elections for Federal office shall establish and make publicly available a contingency plan to enable individuals to vote in elections for Federal office during a state of emergency, public health emergency, or national emergency which has been declared for reasons including—

(A) a natural disaster; or

(B) an infectious disease.

(2) UPDATING.—Each State and jurisdiction shall update the contingency plan established under this subsection not less frequently than every 5 years.

(b) REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO SAFETY.—The contingency plan established under subsection (a) shall include initiatives to provide equipment and resources needed to protect the health and safety of poll workers and voters when voting in person.

(c) REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO RECRUITMENT OF POLL WORKERS.—The contingency plan established under subsection (a) shall include initiatives to recruit election officials and local election officials to recruit poll workers from resilient or unaffected populations, which may include—

(1) employees of other State and local government offices; and

(2) in the case in which an infectious disease poses a significant increased health risks to elderly individuals, students of secondary schools and institutions of higher education in the State.

(d) ENFORCEMENT.—

(1) ATTORNEY GENERAL.—The Attorney General may bring a civil action against any State or jurisdiction in an appropriate United States District Court for such declaratory and injunctive relief (including a temporary restraining order, a permanent or temporary injunction, or other order) as may be necessary to carry out the requirements of this section.

(2) PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a violation of this section, any person who is aggrieved by such violation may bring a civil action, in a civil action, obtain declaratory or injunctive relief with respect to the violation.

(C) SPECIAL RULE.—If the violation occurred within 5 days before the date of an election for Federal office, the aggrieved person need not provide notice to the chief election official of the State involved before bringing a civil action under subparagraph (B).

(d) DEFINITIONS.—

(1) ELECTION FOR FEDERAL OFFICE.—For purposes of section 314 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 20971) means a general, special, primary, or runoff election for the office of President or Vice President, or of Senator or Representative in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress.

(2) STATE.—For purposes of this section, the term "State" includes the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, the United States Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

(f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall apply with respect to the regularly scheduled general election for Federal office held in November 2022 and each succeeding election for Federal office.

PART III—IMPROVEMENTS IN OPERATION OF ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

SEC. 1921. REAUTHORIZATION OF ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION.

Section 210 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 20930) is amended—

(1) by striking "for each of the fiscal years 2003 through 2005" and inserting "for fiscal year 2021 and each succeeding fiscal year"; and

(2) by striking "but not to exceed $10,000,000 for each such purpose".

SEC. 1922. REQUIRING STATES TO PARTICIPATE IN POST-GENERAL ELECTION SURVEYS.

(a) REQUIREMENTS.—Title III of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 21801 et seq.), as amended by section 1903(a), is further amended by inserting after section 303A the following new section:

"Sec. 303B. Requiring participation in post-general election surveys."

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall apply with respect to the regularly scheduled general election for Federal office held in November 2022 and each succeeding election for Federal office.

SEC. 1923. REPORTS BY NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY ON USE OF FUNDS TRANSFERRED FROM ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION.

(a) REQUIRING REPORTS ON USE FUNDS AS CONDITION OF RECEIPT.—Section 221 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 20971) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(e) REPORT ON USE OF FUNDS TRANSFERRED FROM ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION.—To the extent that funds are transferred from the Commission to the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology with respect to a fiscal year, the Director shall prepare and submit to Congress a report on the use of such funds for each fiscal year after the end of the fiscal year during which such funds were transferred; such report shall include—

(1) an assessment of the information technology and cybersecurity security of such systems.

(2) improvements to administrative complaints procedures.

(3) review of procedures.—The Election Assistance Commission shall carry out a review of the effectiveness and efficiency of the State-based administrative complaint procedures established and maintained under section 402 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 21112) for the investigation and resolution of allegations of violations of title III of such Act.

(4) recommendations to improve the procedures.—Not later than December 31, 2021, the Commission shall submit to the Congress a report on the effectiveness and efficiency of the State-based administrative complaint procedures established and maintained under section 402 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 21112) for the investigation and resolution of allegations of violations of title III of such Act.

(5) a natural disaster; or

(6) a state of emergency, public health emergency, or national emergency which has been declared for reasons including—

(7) an infectious disease.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to fiscal year 2022 and each succeeding fiscal year.

(C) FUNDING COMMITTEE—ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION FROM CERTAIN GOVERNMENT CONSIDERATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 205 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 20925) is amended by striking subsection (e).

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to contracts entered into by the Election Assistance Commission on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

PART IV—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

SEC. 1931. APPLICATION OF LAWS TO COMMONWEALTH OF NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS.

(a) NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION ACT OF 1993.—Section 4(a) of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20502(4)) is amended by striking "or the United States Virgin Islands".

(b) HELP AMERICA VOTE ACT OF 2002.—

(1) COVERAGE OF COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS.—Section 901 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 21141) is amended by striking "and the United States Virgin Islands" and inserting "the United States Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands".

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS TO HELP AMERICA VOTE ACT OF 2002.—Such Act is further amended as follows:

(A) the second sentence of section 213(a)(2) (52 U.S.C. 20941(a)(2)) is amended by striking "and American Samoa" and inserting "American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands".

(B) Section 252(c)(2) (52 U.S.C. 21002(c)(2)) is amended by striking "or the United States Virgin Islands" and inserting "the United States Virgin Islands, or the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands".

(C) CONFORMING AMENDMENT RELATING TO CONSULTATION OF HELP AMERICA VOTE FOUNDATION WITH LOCAL ELECTION OFFICIALS.—Section 90102(c)(1) of title 36, United States Code, is amended by striking "and the United States Virgin Islands" and inserting "the United States Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands".

SEC. 1932. DEFINITION OF ELECTION FOR FEDERAL OFFICE.

(a) DEFINITION.—Title IX of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 21141 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:
SEC. 907. ELECTION FOR FEDERAL OFFICE DEFINED.

"For purposes of titles I through III, the term 'election for Federal office' means a general, special, primary, or runoff election for the office of President or Vice President, or of Senator or Representative in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress."

(b) CLARIFYING AMENDMENT—The table of contents of such Act is amended by adding at the end of the items relating to title IX the following new item:

"Sec. 907. Election for Federal office defined."

SEC. 903. NO EFFECT ON OTHER LAWS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as specifically provided, nothing in this title may be construed to authorize or require conduct prohibited under any of the federal laws, or to supersede, restrict, or limit the application of such laws:

(1) The Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10301 et seq.).

(2) The Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (52 U.S.C. 20301 et seq.).

(3) The National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20501 et seq.).


(b) NO EFFECT ON PRECLEARANCE OR OTHER REQUIREMENTS UNDER VOTING ACT.—The approval by any person of a payment or grant of assistance under this title, or any other action taken by any person under this title, shall not be considered to have any effect on requirements for preclearance under section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10304) or any other requirements of such Act.

(c) NO EFFECT ON AUTHORITY OF STATES TO PROVIDE GREATER OPPORTUNITIES FOR VOTING.—Nothing in this title or the amendments made by this title may be construed to prohibit any State from enacting any law which provides greater opportunities for individuals to register to vote and to vote in elections for Federal office than are provided by this title and the amendments made by this title.

Subtitle O—Severability

SEC. 941. SEVERABILITY.

If any provision of this title or amendment made by this title, or the application of a provision or amendment to any person or circumstance, is held to be unconstitutional, the application of the provision or amendment to any person or circumstance, shall not be affected by the holding.

TITLE II—ELECTION INTEGRITY

Subtitle A—Findings Reaffirming Commitment of Congress to Restore the Voting Rights Act


Subtitle B—Findings Relating to Native American Voting Rights

Sec. 2101. Findings relating to Native American voting rights.

Subtitle C—Findings Relating to District of Columbia Statehood

Sec. 2201. Findings relating to District of Columbia statehood.

Subtitle D—Territorial Voting Rights

Sec. 2301. Findings relating to territorial voting rights.


Subtitle E—Redistricting Reform

Sec. 2400. Short title; finding of constitutional authority.

PART I—REQUIREMENTS FOR CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING

Sec. 2401. Requiring congressional redistricting to be conducted through plan of independent State commission.

Sec. 2402. Ban on mid-decade redistricting.

Sec. 2403. Criteria for redistricting.

PART II—INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSIONS

Sec. 2411. Independent redistricting commission.

Sec. 2412. Establishment of selection pool of individuals eligible to serve as members of commission.

Sec. 2413. Public notice required, and creation of independent redistricting commissions.

Sec. 2414. Establishment of related entities.

Sec. 2415. Report on diversity of memberships of independent redistricting commissions.

PART III—ROLE OF COURTS IN DEVELOPMENT OF REDISTRICTING PLANS

Sec. 2421. Enactment of plan developed by 3-judge court.

Sec. 2422. Special rule for redistricting conducted under order of Federal court.

PART IV—ADMINISTRATIVE AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Sec. 2431. Civil enforcement.

Sec. 2432. Payment of fees for carrying out redistricting.

Sec. 2433. State apportionment notice defined.

Sec. 2434. No effect on elections for State and local office.

Sec. 2435. Effective date.

PART V—REQUIREMENTS FOR REDISTRICTING CARRIED OUT PURSUANT TO 2020 CENSUS

SUBPART A—APPLICATION OF CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS FOR REDISTRICTING CARRIED OUT PURSUANT TO 2020 CENSUS

Sec. 2451. Use of independent redistricting commissions for redistricting carried out pursuant to 2020 Census.

Sec. 2452. Establishment of selection pool of individuals eligible to serve as members of commission.

Sec. 2453. Criteria for redistricting plan; public notice and input.

Sec. 2454. Establishment of related entities.

Sec. 2455. Report on diversity of memberships of independent redistricting commissions.

Subtitle F—Saving Eligible Voters From Voter Suppression

Sec. 2501. Short title.

Sec. 2502. Conditions for removal of voters from registration.

Subtitle G—No Effect on Authority of States To Provide Greater Opportunities for Voting

Sec. 2601. No effect on authority of States to provide greater opportunities for voting.

Subtitle H—Residence of Incarcerated Individuals

Sec. 2701. Residence of incarcerated individuals.

Subtitle I—Findings Relating to Youth Voting

Sec. 2801. Findings relating to youth voting.

Subtitle J—Severability

Sec. 2901. Severability.

Subtitle A—Findings Reaffirming Commitment of Congress to Restore the Voting Rights Act

Sec. 3001. FINDINGS REAFFIRMING COMMITMENT OF CONGRESS TO RESTORE THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) The right to vote for all Americans is a fundamental right guaranteed by the United States Constitution.

(2) Federal, State, and local governments should protect the right to vote and promote voter participation across all demographics.

(3) The Voting Rights Act has empowered the Department of Justice to challenge Federal and local laws for nearly a half a century to block discriminatory voting practices before their implementation in States and localities with the most troubling histories, ongoing records of racial discrimination, and demonstrations of lower participation rates for protected classes.

(4) There continues to be an alarming movement to erect barriers to make it more difficult for Americans to participate in our Nation’s democratic process. The Nation has witnessed unprecedented efforts in recent years to lock back the clock and enact suppressive laws that block access to the franchise for communities of color which have faced historic and continuing discriminations, including older, young, elderly, and low-income Americans.

(5) The Supreme Court’s decision in Shelby County v. Holder (570 U.S. 529 (2013)), gutted decades of Federal protections for communities of color and language-minority populations facing ongoing discrimination, emboldening States and local jurisdictions to pass voter suppression and voter requirement procedures, like those requiring photo identification, limiting early voting hours, eliminating same-day voter registration, removing the rols, and reducing the number of polling places.

(6) Racial discrimination in voting is a clear and persistent problem. The actions of States and localities around the country post-Shelby County, including at least 16 findings by Federal courts of intentional discrimination, underscore the need for Congress to conduct investigative and evidentiary hearings to determine the legislation necessary to restore the Voting Rights Act and combat continuing efforts in America that suppress the free exercise of the franchise in Black and other communities of color.

(7) Evidence of discriminatory voting practice spans from decades ago through to the past several election cycles. The 2018 midterm elections, for example, demonstrated ongoing discrimination in voting.

(8) During the 116th Congress, congressional committees in the House of Representatives held numerous hearings, collecting substantial testimony and other evidence which underscored the need to pass a restoration of the Voting Rights Act.

(9) On December 6, 2019, the House of Representatives passed the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act. This Title I of this Act serves to restore and modernize the Voting Rights Act, in accordance with language from the Shelby County decision. Congress reaffirms that the barriers faced by too many voters across this Nation when trying to cast their ballot necessitate reintroduction of many of the protections once afforded by the Voting Rights Act.

(10) The 2020 primary and general elections provide further evidence that systemic voter discrimination and intimidation continues to occur in communities of color and other communities whose voting access, impose stricter voter ID requirements, slash voter registration opportunities, and/or enable more aggressive voter roll purges.

(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are as follows:

(1) To improve access to the ballot for all citizens.

(2) To establish procedures by which States and localities, in accordance with past actions, submit voting practice changes for preclearance by the Federal Government.
(3) To enhance the integrity and security of our voting systems.
(4) To ensure greater accountability for the administration of elections by States and localities.
(5) To restore protections for voters against practices in States and localities plagued by the persistence of voter disenfranchisement.
(6) To preside over federal civil rights laws protect the rights of voters against discriminatory and deceptive practices.

Subtitle B—Findings Relating to Native American Voting Rights

SEC. 2101. FINDINGS RELATING TO NATIVE AMERICAN VOTING RIGHTS.

Congress finds the following:
(1) For all Americans is sacred. Congress must fulfill the Federal Government’s trust responsibility to protect and promote Native Americans’ exercise of their fundamental right to vote, including equal access to voter registration voting mechanisms and locations, and the ability to serve as election officials.
(2) The Native American Voting Rights Coalition’s four-state survey of voter disenfranchisement (2017–2018) revealed obstacles to Native Americans’ right to vote, including a lack of accessible and proximate registration and polling sites, nontraditional addresses for residents on Indian reservations, inadequate language assistance for voters, and voter identification laws that discriminate against Native Americans. The Department of Justice and courts have recognized that some jurisdictions have been unresponsive to reasonable requests from federally recognized Indian Tribes for more accessible and proximate voter registration sites and in-person voting locations.
(3) The 2018 midterm and 2020 general elections provide further evidence that systemic voter disenfranchisement and intimidation continues to occur in communities of color and Tribal lands across the country, making it clear that democracy reform cannot be achieved until Congress restores key provisions of the Voting Rights Act and passes additional protections.
(4) Congress has broad, plenary authority to enact legislation to safeguard the voting rights of Native American voters.
(5) Congress must conduct investigatory and evidentiary hearings to determine the necessary legislation to restore the Voting Rights Act and combat continuous efforts that suppress the voter franchise within Tribal lands, to include, but not limited to, the Native American Voting Rights Act (NAVRA) and the Voting Rights Advancement Act (VRRA).

Subtitle C—Findings Relating to District of Columbia Statehood

SEC. 2201. FINDINGS RELATING TO DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA STATEHOOD.

Congress finds the following:
(1) The 705,000 District of Columbia residents deserve voting representation in Congress and local self-government, which only statehood can provide.
(2) The United States is the only democratic country that denies both voting representation in the national legislature and local self-government to the residents of its nation’s capital.
(3) There are no constitutional, historical, fiscal, or economic reasons why the Americans who live in the District of Columbia should not be granted statehood.
(4) Since the founding of the United States, the residents of the District of Columbia have always carried all of the obligations of citizenship, including serving in all of the Nation’s wars and paying Federal taxes, but have been denied voting representation in Congress and freedom from congressional interference in purely local matters.
(5) The District of Columbia pays more Federal taxes per capita than any State and more Federal taxes than 22 States.
(6) The District of Columbia has a larger population than 2 States (Wyoming and Vermont), and 6 States have a population under one million.
(7) The District of Columbia has a larger budget than 12 States.
(8) The Constitution of the United States gives Congress the authority to admit new States (clause 1, section 3, Article IV) and reduce the size of the seat of the Government of the United States (clause 17, section 8, article I). All 37 new States have been admitted by an Act of Congress, and Congress has previously reduced the size of the seat of the Government of the United States.
(9) On June 26, 2020, by a vote of 232–180, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 51, the Washington, D.C. Admission Act, which would have admitted the State of Washington, Douglass Commonwealth from the residual portions of the District of Columbia and reduced the size of the seat of the Government of the United States to the United States Capital, the White House, the United States Supreme Court, the National Mall, and the principal Federal monuments and buildings.

Subtitle D—Territorial Voting Rights

SEC. 2201. FINDINGS RELATING TO TERRITORIAL VOTING RIGHTS.

Congress finds the following:
(1) The right to vote is one of the most powerful instruments residents of the territories of the United States have to ensure that their voices are heard.
(2) These Americans have played an important part in the American democracy for more than 120 years.
(3) Political participation and the right to vote are among the highest concerns of territorial residents in part because they were not always afforded these rights.
(4) Voter participation in the territories consistently ranks higher than many communities on the mainland.
(5) Territorial residents serve and die, on a per capita basis, at a higher rate in every United States war and conflict since WWI, as an expression of their commitment to American democratic principles and patriotism.

SEC. 2302. CONGRESSIONAL TASK FORCE ON VOTING RIGHTS OF UNITED STATES CITIZEN RESIDENTS OF TERRITORIES OF THE UNITED STATES.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established within the legislative branch a Congressional Task Force on Voting Rights of United States Citizen Residents of Territories of the United States (in this section referred to as the “Task Force”).
(b) MEMBERSHIP.—The Task Force shall be composed of 12 members as follows:
(1) One Member of the House of Representatives, who shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, in coordination with the Chairman of the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives.
(2) One Member of the House of Representatives, who shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, in coordination with the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives.
(3) One Member of the House of Representatives, who shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, in coordination with the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives.
(4) One Member of the House of Representatives, who shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, in coordination with the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives.
(5) One Member of the House of Representatives, who shall be appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives, in coordination with the ranking minority member of the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives.
(6) One Member of the House of Representatives, who shall be appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives, in coordination with the ranking minority member of the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives.
(7) One Member of the Senate, who shall be appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, in coordination with the Chairman of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate.
(8) One Member of the Senate, who shall be appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, in coordination with the Chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate.
(9) One Member of the Senate, who shall be appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, in coordination with the Chairman of the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate.
(10) One Member of the Senate, who shall be appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, in coordination with the ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate.
(11) One Member of the Senate, who shall be appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, in coordination with the ranking minority member of the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate.
(c) DEADLINE FOR APPOINTMENT.—All appointments to the Task Force shall be made not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act.
(d) CHAIR.—The Speaker shall designate one Member to serve as chair of the Task Force.
(2) VACANCIES.—Any vacancy in the Task Force shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.
(f) STATUS UPDATE.—Between September 1, 2021, and September 30, 2021, the Task Force shall provide a status update to the House of Representatives and the Senate that includes—
(1) information the Task Force has collected; and
(2) a discussion on matters that the chairman of the Task Force deems urgent for consideration by Congress.
(g) REPORT.—Not later than December 31, 2021, the Task Force shall issue a report of its findings to the House of Representatives and the Senate regarding—
(1) the economic and societal consequences (through statistical data and other metrics) that come with political disenfranchisement of United States citizens in territories of the United States;
(2) impediments to full and equal voting rights for United States citizens who are residents of territories of the United States in Federal elections, including the election of the President and Vice President of the United States;
(3) impediments to full and equal voting representation in the House of Representatives for United States citizens who are residents of territories of the United States;
(4) impediments to full and equal voting representation in the House of Representatives for United States citizens who are residents of territories of the United States;
(5) recommended changes that, if adopted, would allow for full and equal voting rights for United States citizens who are residents of territories of the United States in Federal elections, including the election of the President and Vice President of the United States;
(6) additional information the Task Force deems appropriate.
(h) CONSENSUS VIEWS.—To the greatest extent practicable, the report issued under subsection (g) shall reflect the shared views of all Members, except that the report may contain dissenting views.
(a) SHORT TITLE.—This subtitle may be cited as the “Redistricting Reform Act of 2021”.

(b) FINDING OF CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY.—Congress finds that it has the authority to en- 

force laws changing the terms and conditions of Members of the House of Representa- 

tives in Congress, approved June 18, 1929 (2 U.S.C. 2a(c)), is amended by striking “in 

the manner provided by the Redistricting Reform Act of 2021”. 

(c) RULES OF THE HOUSE.—Section (a) does not apply to the State of Iowa, so long as congressional redistricting in such State is carried out in accordance with a plan developed by the Nebraska Redistricting Services Agency with the assistance of a Temporary Re-

districting Advisory Commission, under law which was in effect for the most recent congres-
sional elections, as determined using quantitative meas-
ures of partisan fairness, which may include, but are not limited to, the seats-to-votes curve 

for an enacted plan, the efficiency gap, the dec- 

imation, partisan asymmetry, and the mean-mo-

dian difference, and other alternative plans, which may include, but are not limited to, those generated by redistricting 
algorithms, exist that could have complied with the requirements of law and not been in violation of paragraph (1) of this subsection.

(2) DISQUALIFICATIONS FOR GOVERNMENT SERV-

ICE. — Individuals who, for a covered period of time as established by the State, hold or have held public office, in- 

cluding by creating any districts where two or more politically cohesive groups protected by such Act are able to elect representatives of choice in coalition with one another, and all ap- 
plicable Federal laws.

(3) Districts shall be drawn, to the extent that the totality of the circumstances warrant, to en-

sure the practical ability of a group protected under the Voting Rights Act (52 U.S.C. 10201 et seq.) to participate in the political pro-
cess and to nominate candidates and to elect rep- 

resentatives of choice is not diluted or dimin-

ished so long as a protected group constitutes a majority of a district’s citizen voting age popula-

tion.

(4) REDISTRICTING TO BE CONDUCTED THROUGH PLAN OF INDEPENDENT STATE COMMISSION. 

(a) USE OF PLAN REQUIRED.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and except as pro-

vided in subsection (c) and subsection (d), any congressional redistricting conducted by a State shall be conducted in accordance with a plan developed by a commission established in the State, in accordance with paragraph (2) of this subsection; and

(b) BAN ON MID-DECADE REDISTRICTING. 

(1) The authority granted to Congress under section 5 of the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution gives Congress the power to enact laws changing the terms and conditions of Members of the House of Representa-

tives in Congress, approved June 18, 1929 (2 U.S.C. 2a(c)), is amended by striking “in 

the manner provided by the Redistricting Reform Act of 2021”.

(c) SPECIAL RULE FOR EXISTING COMMISSIONS.—Subsection (a) does not apply to any State in which, under law in effect continuously on and after the date of the enactment of this Act, congressional redistricting is carried out in accordance with a plan developed and approved by the State in which such plan is in compliance with each of the following requirements:

(1) PUBLICLY AVAILABLE APPLICATION PROC-

ESS.—The commission shall provide for an open and public commission meeting at which interested citizens of the State through a publicly avail-

able application process.

(2) DISQUALIFICATIONS FOR GOVERNMENT SERV-

ICE. — Individuals who, for a covered period of time as established by the State, hold or have held public office, in- 

cluding by creating any districts where two or more politically cohesive groups protected by such Act are able to elect representatives of choice in coalition with one another, and all ap-
plicable Federal laws.

(3) Districts shall be drawn, to the extent that the totality of the circumstances warrant, to en-

sure the practical ability of a group protected under the Voting Rights Act (52 U.S.C. 10201 et seq.) to participate in the political pro-
cess and to nominate candidates and to elect rep-

resentatives of choice is not diluted or dimin-

ished so long as a protected group constitutes a majority of a district’s citizen voting age popula-

tion.

(4) REDISTRICTING TO BE CONDUCTED THROUGH PLAN OF INDEPENDENT STATE COMMISSION. 

(a) USE OF PLAN REQUIRED.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and except as pro-

vided in subsection (c) and subsection (d), any congressional redistricting conducted by a State shall be conducted in accordance with a plan developed by a commission established in the State, in accordance with paragraph (2) of this subsection; and

(b) BAN ON MID-DECADE REDISTRICTING. 

(1) The authority granted to Congress under section 5 of the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution gives Congress the power to enact laws changing the terms and conditions of Members of the House of Representa-

tives in Congress, approved June 18, 1929 (2 U.S.C. 2a(c)), is amended by striking “in 

the manner provided by the Redistricting Reform Act of 2021”.

(c) SPECIAL RULE FOR EXISTING COMMISSIONS.—Subsection (a) does not apply to any State in which, under law in effect continuously on and after the date of the enactment of this Act, congressional redistricting is carried out in accordance with a plan developed and approved by the State in which such plan is in compliance with each of the following requirements:

(1) PUBLICLY AVAILABLE APPLICATION PROC-

ESS.—The commission shall provide for an open and public commission meeting at which interested citizens of the State through a publicly avail-

able application process.

(2) DISQUALIFICATIONS FOR GOVERNMENT SERV-

ICE. — Individuals who, for a covered period of time as established by the State, hold or have held public office, in- 

including by creating any districts where two or more politically cohesive groups protected by such Act are able to elect representatives of choice in coalition with one another, and all ap-
plicable Federal laws.

(3) Districts shall be drawn, to the extent that the totality of the circumstances warrant, to en-

sure the practical ability of a group protected under the Voting Rights Act (52 U.S.C. 10201 et seq.) to participate in the political pro-
cess and to nominate candidates and to elect rep-

resentatives of choice is not diluted or dimin-

ished so long as a protected group constitutes a majority of a district’s citizen voting age popula-

tion.

(4) REDISTRICTING TO BE CONDUCTED THROUGH PLAN OF INDEPENDENT STATE COMMISSION. 

(a) USE OF PLAN REQUIRED.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and except as pro-

vided in subsection (c) and subsection (d), any congressional redistricting conducted by a State shall be conducted in accordance with a plan developed by a commission established in the State, in accordance with paragraph (2) of this subsection; and

(b) BAN ON MID-DECADE REDISTRICTING. 

(1) The authority granted to Congress under section 5 of the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution gives Congress the power to enact laws changing the terms and conditions of Members of the House of Representa-

tives in Congress, approved June 18, 1929 (2 U.S.C. 2a(c)), is amended by striking “in 

the manner provided by the Redistricting Reform Act of 2021”.

(c) SPECIAL RULE FOR EXISTING COMMISSIONS.—Subsection (a) does not apply to any State in which, under law in effect continuously on and after the date of the enactment of this Act, congressional redistricting is carried out in accordance with a plan developed and approved by the State in which such plan is in compliance with each of the following requirements:

(1) PUBLICLY AVAILABLE APPLICATION PROC-

ESS.—The commission shall provide for an open and public commission meeting at which interested citizens of the State through a publicly avail-

able application process.

(2) DISQUALIFICATIONS FOR GOVERNMENT SERV-

ICE. — Individuals who, for a covered period of time as established by the State, hold or have held public office, in-
(c) Factors Prohibited from Consideration.—In developing the redistricting plan for the State, the independent redistricting commission may not take into consideration any of the following factors, except as necessary to comply with the criteria described in paragraphs (1) through (3) of subsection (a), subsection (b), and to enable the redistricting plan to be apportioned to the external metrics described in section 2413(d):

(1) The residence of any Member of the House of Representatives or candidate;

(2) A majority affiliation or voting history of the population of a district;

(3) Any income received by such individual or vendor during the 10 most recent calendar years which is attributable to an expenditure for political activity.

PART 2—INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSIONS

SEC. 2411. INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION.

(a) Appointment of Members.—

(1) In General.—The nonpartisan agency established or designated by a State under section 2414(a) or an independent redistricting commission for the State, which shall consist of 15 members appointed by the agency as follows:

(B) Ensuring Diversity.—In appointing the 9 members pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1), as well as in designating alternates pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3) and in appointing 3 members pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (4), the first members of the independent redistricting commission shall ensure that the membership of the commission includes representation from geographic groups (including racial, ethnic, economic, and gender) and geographic regions of the State, and provides racial, ethnic, and language minorities protected under Voting Rights Acts of 1965 with a meaningful opportunity to participate in the development of the State’s redistricting plan.

(2) Determination of Alternates to Serve in Case of Vacancies.—

(A) Members Appointed by Agency.—At the time the members appointed by the agency pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) from each of the categories referred to in such subparagraph, the agency shall, on a random basis, designate 2 other individuals from such category to serve as alternate members who may be appointed to fill vacancies in the commission in accordance with paragraph (4).

(B) Members Appointed by First Members.—At the time the members appointed by the agency pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) from each of the categories referred to in such subparagraph, the agency shall, on a random basis, designate 2 other individuals from such category to serve as alternate members who may be appointed to fill vacancies in the commission in accordance with paragraph (4).

(3) Appointment of Alternates to Serve in Case of Vacancies.—

(A) Members Appointed by Agency.—If a vacancy occurs in the commission with respect to a member who was appointed by the nonpartisan agency under subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) from one of the categories referred to in such subparagraph, the agency shall fill the vacancy by appointing, on a random basis, another individual from the same category.

(B) Members Appointed by First Members.—If a vacancy occurs in the commission with respect to a member who was appointed by the first members of the commission under subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) from one of the categories referred to in such subparagraph, the agency shall fill the vacancy by appointing, on a random basis, another individual from the same category who was designated under subparagraph (A) of paragraph (3). At the time the agency appoints an alternate to fill a vacancy under the previous sentence, the agency shall designate, on a random basis, another individual from the same category to serve as an alternate member, in accordance with subparagraph (A) of paragraph (3).

(B) Members Appointed by First Members.—If a vacancy occurs in the commission with respect to a member who was appointed by the first members of the commission under subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) from one of the categories referred to in such subparagraph, the agency shall fill the vacancy by appointing, on a random basis, another individual from the same category who was designated under subparagraph (A) of paragraph (3). At the time the agency appoints an alternate to fill a vacancy under the previous sentence, the agency shall designate, on a random basis, another individual from the same category to serve as an alternate member, in accordance with subparagraph (A) of paragraph (3).

(C) Appointing Other Members.—If a vacancy occurs in the commission with respect to a member who was appointed by the agency pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) from one of the categories referred to in such subparagraph, the agency shall appoint an appropriate, subject to State law, except that any such contract shall be valid only if approved by the vote of a majority of the members of the commission, excluding the member appointed by the agency, and by the State agency under subparagraph (A) of paragraph (3). At the time the agency appoints the members of the independent redistricting commission under subparagraph (A) of paragraph (3), the agency shall fill any vacancies in the commission in accordance with paragraph (4).

(4) Appointments for Political Activity.—

(A) Appointment for Political Activity.—If an independent expenditure, as defined in section 301(17) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30101(17)), or any other public communication, as defined in section 304(3) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30104(3)(3)) or any other public communication, as defined in section 301(22) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30101(22)) that would be an electioneering communication if it were a broadcast, cable, or satellite communication, is authorized or required to be used or transferred to another association or organization for a use described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from tax under section 501(a) of such code, or otherwise is anticipated to be, used or transferred to another association or organization for a use described in paragraph (1), (2), or (4) of section 501(c)(3) of such code, the appointment of such political activity shall not be made.

(B) Members Appointed for Political Activity.—Any expenditures and income described in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (4), and any receipt, shall be counted as an independent expenditure for political activity.

(5) Removal.—A member of the independent redistricting commission may be removed by a majority vote of the remaining members of the commission if it is shown by a preponderance of the evidence that the member is not eligible to serve on the commission under section 2412(a).

PROCEEDINGS FOR CONDUCTING COMMISSION BUSINESS.—

(1) Chair.—Members of an independent redistricting commission established or designated by this section shall select by majority vote one member who was appointed from the independent category of the approved selection pool described in section 2412(b)(1)(C) to serve as chair of the commission. The commission may not take any action to develop a redistricting plan for the State unless section 2413 until the appointment of the commission’s chair.

(2) Majority Approval for Action.—The independent redistricting commission of a State may not pass any draft or final redistricting plan, or take any other action, without the approval of at least—

(A) at least 7 members of the commission; and

(B) at least one member of the commission appointed from each of the categories of the approved selection pool described in section 2412(b)(4).

(3) Quorum.—A majority of the members of the commission shall constitute a quorum.

(C) Staff; Contractors.—

(i) Staff.—Under a public application process in which all application materials are available for public inspection, the independent redistricting commission of a State shall appoint and set the pay of technical experts, legal counsel, consultants, and such other staff as it considers appropriate, subject to State law.

(ii) Contractors.—The independent redistricting commission of a State may enter into contracts with vendors as it considers appropriate, subject to State law, and enter into any such contract shall be valid only if approved by the vote of a majority of the members of the commission, excluding the member appointed by the agency, and by the agency.

(4) Expenditures and Income.—

(A) Expenditures.—The independent redistricting commission may allocate or designate any draft or final redistricting plan or any other action described in paragraph (1) of this section to any political activity, including any associated or organization for a use described in section 501(c)(3) of such code, except as otherwise provided by State law.

(B) Members of the Commission.—The commission is authorized or required to be used or transferred to another association or organization for a use described in section 501(c)(3) of such code, the appointment of such political activity shall not be made.

(C) Appointing Other Members.—If a vacancy occurs in the commission with respect to a member who was appointed by the agency pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) from one of the categories referred to in such subparagraph, the agency shall appoint an appropriate, subject to State law, except that any such contract shall be valid only if approved by the vote of a majority of the members of the commission, excluding the member appointed by the agency, and by the agency, and enter into any such contract shall be valid only if approved by the vote of a majority of the members of the commission, excluding the member appointed by the agency.

(D) Expenditures and Income.—The independent redistricting commission may allocate or designate any draft or final redistricting plan or any other action described in paragraph (1) of this section to any political activity, including any associated or organization for a use described in section 501(c)(3) of such code, except as otherwise provided by State law.

(E) Goal of Impartiality.—The commission shall take such steps as it considers appropriate
to ensure that any staff appointed under this subsection, and any vendor with whom the commission enters into a contract under this subsection, will act in an impartial manner, and may not be affiliated with either of the political parties who apply for an appointment to a staff position or for a vendor's contract with the commission to provide information on the person's history of political activity beyond that which is generally available to the public, or to expend funds for political activity provided in the reports required under paragraph (3) (including donations to candidates, political committees, and political parties) as a condition of the appointment or the contract.

(5) DISQUALIFICATION; WAIVER.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The independent redistricting commission may not appoint an individual as an employee, and may not enter into a contract with a vendor, if the individual or vendor meets any of the criteria for the disqualification of an individual from serving as a member of the commission which are set forth in section 2412(a)(2).

(B) WAIVER.—The commission may by unanimous vote of its members waive the application of subparagraph (A) to an individual or a vendor after receiving and reviewing the report filed by the individual or vendor under paragraph (3).

(d) TERMINATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The independent redistricting commission of a State shall terminate on the earlier of—

(A) June 14 of the next year ending in the numeral zero; or

(B) the end of the term of the nonpartisan agency on which the nonpartisan agency established or designated by a State under section 2414(a) has, in accordance with section 2412(b)(1), submitted a selection pool to the Select Committee on Redistricting for the State established under section 2414(b).

(2) PRESERVATION OF RECORDS.—The State shall ensure that the records of the independent redistricting commission are retained in the appropriate State archive in such manner as may be necessary to enable the State to respond to any civil action brought with respect to congressional redistricting in the State.

SEC. 2412. ESTABLISHMENT OF SELECTION POOL OF INDIVIDUALS ELIGIBLE TO SERVE AS MEMBERS OF COMMISSION.

(a) CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—An individual is eligible to serve as a member of an independent redistricting commission if the individual meets each of the following criteria:

(A) As of the date of appointment, the individual is registered to vote with any political party.

(B) During the 3-year period ending on the date of the individual's appointment, the individual has been continuously registered to vote with the same political party, or has not been registered to vote with any political party.

(C) The individual submits to the nonpartisan agency established or designated by a State under section 2413, at such time and in such form as the agency may require, an application for inclusion in the selection pool of individuals who are affiliated with the political party only if the nonpartisan agency is able to verify (to the greatest extent possible) the information the individual provides in the application submitted under subsection (a)(1)(D), including by considering additional information provided by other persons with knowledge of the individual's history of political activity.

(2) DETERMINATION OF POLITICAL PARTY AFFILIATION OF INDIVIDUALS IN SELECTION POOL.—

For purposes of this section, an individual shall be considered to be affiliated with the political party only if the nonpartisan agency is able to verify (to the greatest extent possible) the information the individual provides in the application submitted under subsection (a)(1)(D), including by considering additional information provided by other persons with knowledge of the individual's history of political activity.

(3) COVERED PERIODS DESCRIBED.—In this subsection, the term "covered period" means, with respect to the appointment of an individual to the commission, the following:

(A) The 10-year period ending on the date of the individual's appointment.

(B) The period beginning on the date of the individual's appointment and ending on August 14 of the next year ending in the numeral one.

(C) The 10-year period beginning on the day after the last day of the period described in subparagraph (B).

(4) IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBER DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term "immediate family member" means, with respect to an individual, a parent, brother, sister, stepsister, husband, wife, father, stepfather, mother, stepmother, son, stepson, daughter, stepdaughter, brother, stepbrother, sister, stepsister, husband, wife, father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, nephew, niece, or grandchild of the individual, including an electronic mail address, names of, and the contact information for, the individual's immediate family members.

(5) DURATION OF SELECTION POOL.—The selection pool established under this subsection shall include all persons who meet the eligibility criteria of subsection (a) and who are available to serve on the commission as members.

(6) PUBLICATION.—At the time the nonpartisan agency submits the selection pool to the Select Committee on Redistricting for the State established under section 2414(b), it shall publish and post on the agency's public website a report describing the process by which the pool was developed, and shall include in the report the number of applicants who meet the eligibility criteria of subsection (a) and the number of members of the commission that meet the criteria.
agency is required to take into consideration under paragraph (2).

(7) PUBLIC COMMENT ON SELECTION POOL.—During the 14-day period which begins on the date on which public notices are published pursuant to subparagraph (a), the agency shall accept comments from the public on the individuals included in the selection pool. The agency shall post all such comments contemporaneously on the nonpartisan agency’s website and shall transmit them to the Select Committee on Redistricting immediately upon the expiration of such period.

(8) ACTION BY SELECT COMMITTEE.—(A) IN GENERAL.—Not earlier than 15 days and not later than 14 days after receiving the selection pool submitted by the nonpartisan agency under paragraph (1), the Select Committee on Redistricting shall, by majority vote—

(i) approve the pool as submitted by the nonpartisan agency, in which case the pool shall be considered the approved selection pool for purposes of section (c); or

(ii) reject the pool, in which case the nonpartisan agency shall develop and submit a replacement selection pool in accordance with subsection (c).

(B) ACTION DEEMED REJECTION.—If the Select Committee on Redistricting fails to approve or reject the pool within the deadline set forth in subparagraph (A), the Select Committee shall be deemed to have rejected the pool for purposes of such subparagraph.

(c) DEVELOPMENT OF REPLACEMENT SELECTION POOL.—(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Select Committee on Redistricting rejects the selection pool submitted by the nonpartisan agency under subsection (b), not later than 14 days after the rejection, the nonpartisan agency shall develop and submit to the Select Committee a replacement selection pool, under the same terms and conditions that applied to the development and submission of the selected pool under paragraphs (1) through (7) of subsection (b). The replacement pool submitted under this paragraph may include individuals who were included in the rejected selection pool submitted under subsection (b), so long as at least one of the individuals in the replacement pool was not included in such rejected pool.

(2) ACTION BY SELECT COMMITTEE.—(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 21 days after receiving the replacement selection pool from the nonpartisan agency under paragraph (1), the Select Committee on Redistricting shall, by majority vote—

(i) approve the pool as submitted by the nonpartisan agency, in which case the pool shall be considered the approved selection pool for purposes of section (c), or

(ii) reject the pool, in which case the nonpartisan agency shall develop and submit a second replacement selection pool in accordance with subsection (d).

(B) ACTION DEEMED REJECTION.—If the Select Committee on Redistricting fails to approve or reject the pool within the deadline set forth in subparagraph (A), the Select Committee shall be deemed to have rejected the pool for purposes of such subparagraph.

(d) DEVELOPMENT OF SECOND REPLACEMENT SELECTION POOL.—(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Select Committee on Redistricting rejects the replacement selection pool submitted by the nonpartisan agency under subsection (c), not later than 14 days after the rejection, the nonpartisan agency shall develop and submit to the Select Committee a second replacement selection pool, under the same terms and conditions that applied to the development and submission of the selected pool under paragraphs (1) through (7) of subsection (b). The second replacement selection pool submitted under this paragraph may include individuals who were included in the rejected selection pool submitted under paragraphs (1) through (7) of subsection (b), or the rejected replacement selection pool submitted under subsection (b) of the subsection (c), or both.

(e) SELECTION PROCESS FOR OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER.—(1) IN GENERAL.—The independent redistricting commission of a State shall select, or have selected by the nonpartisan agency under paragraph (2), individuals to serve as its commissioners, together with access to any documents considered at any such meeting, the commission shall post notices of the meetings, including any documents considered at any such meeting, on the website maintained under subsection (a)(2). The commission shall solicit, accept, and consider comments from the public regarding the potential contents of the redistricting plan for the State, and the process by which the commission will develop the preliminary plan under this subsection.

(2) TECHNICAL DEPARTMENT.—The commission shall hold hearings or meetings, including any documents considered at any such meeting, the commission shall post notices of the meetings, including any documents considered at any such meeting, on the website maintained under subsection (a)(2). The commission shall solicit, accept, and consider comments from the public regarding the potential contents of the redistricting plan for the State, and the process by which the commission will develop the preliminary plan under this subsection.

(3) SUBMISSION OF PLANS AND MAPS BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.—(A) Any member of the public may submit maps or portions of maps for consideration by the commission. As provided under subsection (a)(2), any such map shall be made publicly available on the commission’s website and open to comment.

(b) PUBLICATION OF PRELIMINARY REDISTRICTING PLAN.—(1) IN GENERAL.—Prior to developing and publishing the final redistricting plan under subsection (c), the independent redistricting commission of a State shall develop and publish a preliminary redistricting plan.

(2) MINIMUM PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD AND OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMENT PRIOR TO DEVELOPMENT.—(A) 3 HEARINGS REQUIRED.—Prior to developing a preliminary redistricting plan under subsection (b), the independent redistricting commission of a State shall conduct not fewer than three public hearings at which members of the public may provide input and comments regarding the potential contents of the redistricting plan for the State.

(B) WHICH END 7 DAYS BEFORE THE DATE OF THE HEARING.—Not fewer than 14 days prior to the date on which each public hearing held under this paragraph, the commission shall publish notices of the hearing in newspapers of general circulation throughout the State and on the website maintained under subsection (a)(2), and shall provide for the publication of such notices in newspapers of general circulation throughout the State. Each such notice shall specify the date, time, and location of the hearing.

(C) SUBMISSION OF PLANS AND MAPS BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.—Any member of the public may submit maps or portions of maps for consideration by the commission. As provided under subsection (a)(2)(A), any such map shall be made publicly available on the commission’s website and open to comment.

(3) PUBLICATION OF PRELIMINARY PLAN.—(A) IN GENERAL.—The commission shall post the preliminary redistricting plan under this subsection, together with a report that includes the commission’s responses to any public comments received under subsection (b) on the website maintained under subsection (a)(2), and shall provide for the publication of each such plan in newspapers of general circulation throughout the State.

(B) MINIMUM PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD PRIOR TO PUBLICATION.—Not fewer than 14 days prior to the date on which the commission posts and publishes the preliminary plan under this paragraph, the commission shall conduct not fewer than three public hearings at which members of the public may provide input and comments on the preliminary plan, as provided under subsection (a)(2), as well as through publication of
notice in newspapers of general circulation throughout the State, of the pending publication of the plan.

(4) **MINIMUM POST-PUBLICATION PERIOD FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.**—Each commission shall accept and consider comments from the public (including through the website maintained under subsection (a)(1)) with respect to the preliminary redistricting plan developed and published under subsection (a)(2), and shall provide for the publication of such notices in newspapers of general circulation throughout the State. Each such notice shall specify the date, time, and location of the hearing.

(5) **PERMITTING MULTIPLE PRELIMINARY PLANS.**—At the option of the commission, after developing and publishing the preliminary redistricting plan under this subsection, the commission may develop and publish subsequent preliminary plans, so long as the process for the development and publication of each such subsequent plan meets the requirements set forth in this subsection for the development and publication of the first preliminary redistricting plan.

(c) **PROCESS FOR ENACTMENT OF FINAL REDISTRICTING PLAN.**

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Each State shall establish a nonpartisan agency in the legislative branch of its government to carry out its duties under this subtitle, including obligations under the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and other applicable laws.

(2) **APPOINTMENT.**—The Select Committee on Redistricting to approve or disapprove a selection pool developed under the independent redistricting commission for the State under section 2412.

(3) **MEETING; FINAL VOTE.**—Not later than the deadline specified in subsection (e), the commission shall hold a public hearing at which the members of the commission shall vote on approving the final plan for enactment into law.

(4) **APPLICATION OF PLAN AND ACCOMPANYING MATERIALS.**—Not fewer than 14 days before the date of the meeting under paragraph (2), the commission shall provide the following information to the public through the website maintained under subsection (a)(2), as well as through newspapers of general circulation throughout the State:

(A) the final redistricting plan, including all relevant maps.

(B) a report by the commission to accompany the plan which provides the background for the plan and the reasons for selecting the plan as the final redistricting plan, including responses to the public comments received on any preliminary redistricting plan developed and published under subsection (b), the independent redistricting commission of a State shall develop and publish a final redistricting plan for the State.

(2) **MEETING; FINAL VOTE.**—Not later than the deadline specified in subsection (e), the commission shall hold a public hearing at which the members of the commission shall vote on approving the final plan for enactment into law.

(C) any dissenting or additional views with respect to the plan of individual members of the commission.

(4) **EXCERPT.**—Subject to paragraph (5), the final redistricting plan developed and published under this subsection shall be deemed to be enacted into law upon the expiration of the 45-day period beginning on the date on which—

(A) such final plan is approved by a majority of the whole membership of the commission; and

(B) the report of the commission is accepted from each of the categories of the approved selection pool described in section 2412(b)(1) approves such final plan.

(5) **DESIGNATION OF EXISTING AGENCY.**—(A) **REQUIREMENT TO SUBMIT PLAN FOR REVIEW.**—The final redistricting plan shall not be deemed to be enacted into law unless the State submits the plan to the Department of Justice for an administrative review to determine if the plan is in compliance with the criteria described in subparagraphs (B) and (C) of section 2412(a)(1).

(B) **TERMINATION OF REVIEW.**—The Department of Justice shall terminate any administrative review under this title during the 45-day period which begins on the date the plan is enacted into law, an action is filed in a United States district court alleging that the plan is in compliance with the criteria described in subparagraphs (B) and (C) of section 2412(a)(1).

(C) **WRITTEN EVALUATION OF PLAN AGAINST EXTERNAL METRICS.**—The independent redistricting commission shall include with each redistricting plan published under this section a written evaluation that measures each such plan against external metrics which cover the criteria set forth in section 2412(a), including the impact of the plan on the ability of communities of color to elect candidates of choice, measures of partisan fairness using multiple accepted methodologies, and the degree to which the plan preserves or divides communities of interest.

(e) **TIMING.**—The independent redistricting commission of a State may begin its work on the redistricting plan of the State upon receipt of relevant population information from the Bureau of the Census, and shall approve a final redistricting plan for the State in each year ending in the numeral one not later than 8 months after the party with a majority of seats in the State legislature, who shall be appointed by the legislature of the State, submits the plan to the Department of Justice notice or October 1, whichever occurs later.

SEC. 2414. ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATED ENTITY.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT OR DESIGNATION OF NONPARTISAN AGENCY OF STATE LEGISLATURE.**

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Each State shall establish a nonpartisan agency to replace the redistricting commission of the State government to appoint members of the independent redistricting commission for the State in accordance with section 2411.

(2) **NONPARTISANSHIP DESCRIBED.**—For purposes of this subsection, an agency shall be considered to be nonpartisan if under law the agency—

(A) is required to provide services on a nonpartisan basis;

(B) is required to maintain impartiality, and is prohibited from the adoption or rejection of any legislative proposal.

(3) **TRAINING OF MEMBERS APPOINTED TO COMMISSION.**—Not later than January 15 of a year beginning on or immediately preceding year ending in the numeral one, the nonpartisan agency established or designated under this subsection shall provide the members of the independent redistricting commission with initial training on their obligations as members of the commission, including obligations under the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and other applicable laws.

(4) **REGULATIONS.**—The nonpartisan agency established or designated under this subsection shall adopt and publish regulations, after notice and opportunity for comment, for carrying out its duties under this subtitle, and the rules that the agency will apply to ensure that the agency carries out its duties under this subtitle in a manner that is, so far as is practicable, nonpartisan, publicly accessible, and impartial manner.

(b) **DESIGNATION OF EXISTING AGENCY.**—(A) **REQUIREMENT TO SUBMIT PLAN FOR REVIEW.**—The final redistricting plan shall not be deemed to be enacted into law unless the State submits the plan to the Department of Justice for an administrative review to determine if the plan is in compliance with the criteria described in subparagraphs (B) and (C) of section 2412(a)(1).

(B) **TERMINATION OF REVIEW.**—The Department of Justice shall terminate any administrative review under this title during the 45-day period which begins on the date the plan is enacted into law, an action is filed in a United States district court alleging that the plan is in compliance with the criteria described in subparagraphs (B) and (C) of section 2412(a)(1).

(C) Any dissenting or additional views with respect to the plan of individual members of the commission.

(5) **DESIGNATION OF EXISTING AGENCY.**—At its discretion, the independent redistricting commission for the State under this subsection may be construed to prohibit the designation of an existing agency under paragraph (3) of section 2412(a) if the agency is retained in the appropriate State apparatus and is responsible for creating the selection pools, the randomization process to be used in selecting the initial members of the independent redistricting commission, and the rules that the agency will apply to ensure that the agency carries out its duties under this subtitle in a maximally transparent, publicly accessible, and impartial manner.

(5) **PERMITTING MULTIPLE PRELIMINARY PLANS.**—At the option of the commission, after developing and publishing the preliminary redistricting plan under this subsection, the commission may develop and publish subsequent preliminary plans, so long as the process for the development and publication of each such subsequent plan meets the requirements set forth in this subsection for the development and publication of the first preliminary redistricting plan.

(c) **PROCESS FOR ENACTMENT OF FINAL REDISTRICTING PLAN.**

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Each State shall establish a nonpartisan agency in the legislative branch of its government to carry out its duties under this subtitle, including obligations under the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and other applicable laws.

(2) **APPOINTMENT.**—The Select Committee on Redistricting to approve or disapprove a selection pool developed under the independent redistricting commission for the State under section 2412.

(D) **Select Committee on Redistricting for a State under this subsection shall consist of the following members: (A) One member of the State legislature, who shall be appointed by the legislature of the State; and (B) Two members of the State legislature, who shall be appointed by the legislature of the State.
PART 3—ROLE OF COURTS IN DEVELOPMENT OF REDISTRICTING PLANS

SEC. 2421. ENACTMENT OF PLAN DEVELOPED BY 3-JUDGE COURT.

(a) DEVELOPMENT OF PLAN.—If any of the triggering events described in subsection (f) occur with respect to a State—

(i) not later than December 15 of the year in which the triggering event occurs, the United States district court—

(A) for the applicable venue, acting through a 3-judge Court convened pursuant to section 2284 of title 28, United States Code, shall develop and publish the congressional redistricting in the State.

(B) The district court shall—

(1) hold one or more evidentiary hearings at a time and place designated by the court, which shall have the duty and authority to develop a plan, described in paragraph (1), for the independent redistricting commission of the State in carrying out its duties under this title.

(2) hold such other hearings as may be appropriate to fulfill the requirements of section 2413(e).

(3) have access to any information, data, software, or other records and material that was used (or would have been used, as the case may be) to the development of a plan by the independent redistricting commission of the State under section 2403.

(b) APPLICABLE Venue DESCRIPTION.—For purposes of this section, the “applicable venue” with respect to a State is the District of Columbia or the judicial district in which the capital of the State is located, as selected by the first party to file with the court sufficient evidence of the occurrence of a triggering event described in subsection (f).

(c) PROCEDURES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF PLAN.—(1) CRITERIA.—In developing a redistricting plan for a State under this section, the Court shall adhere to the same terms and conditions that apply generally to redistricting plans which would have otherwise been developed by the independent redistricting commission of the State in carrying out its duties under this title.

(2) HEARING; PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.—In developing a redistricting plan for a State, the Court shall—

(A) hold one or more evidentiary hearings at a time and place designated by the court, which shall have the duty and authority to develop a plan, described in paragraph (1), for the independent redistricting commission of the State in carrying out its duties under this title.

(B) permit public participation in the development of the plan by the public, including proposals for redistricting plans to cover the entire State or any portion of the State.

(3) USE OF SPECIAL MASTER.—To assist in the development and publication of a redistricting plan for a State under this section, the Court may appoint a special master to make recommendations to the Court on possible plans for the State.

(d) PUBLICATION OF PLAN.—(1) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF INITIAL PLAN.—Upon completion of development of one or more initial redistricting plans, the Court shall make the plans available to the public at no cost, and shall also make available the underlying data used by the Court to develop the plans and a written evaluation of the plans against external metrics (as described in section 2413(d)).

(2) PUBLICATION OF FINAL PLAN.—At any time after the expiration of the 14-day period which begins on the date the Court makes the plans available to the public under paragraph (1), and taking into consideration any submissions and comments by the public which are received during such period, the Court shall develop and publish the final redistricting plan for the State.

(e) USE OF INTERNET PLAN.—In the event that the Court is unable to develop and publish the final redistricting plan for the State with sufficient time for an upcoming election to proceed, the Court may develop and publish an interim redistricting plan which shall serve as the redistricting plan for the State until the Court develops and publishes a final plan in accordance with this section. Nothing in this subsection may be construed to limit or otherwise affect the authority or discretion of the Court to develop and publish the final redistricting plan, including but not limited to the discretion to make any changes the Court deems necessary to an interim redistricting plan.

(f) TRIGGERING EVENTS DESCRIPTION.—The “triggering events” described in this subsection are as follows:

(1) The failure of the State to establish or designate a nonpartisan agency of the State legislature, or a State or local government, prior to the expiration of the deadline set forth in section 2414(a)(1).

(2) The failure of the State to appoint a Select Committee on Redistricting under section 2414(b) prior to the expiration of the deadline set forth in section 2414(b)(1).

(3) The failure of the Select Committee on Redistricting to approve any selection pool under section 2412 prior to the expiration of the deadline set forth for the approval of the second replacement selection pool in section 2412(d)(2).

(4) The failure of the State to meet any triggering event described in subsection (f) during the occurrence of a triggering event described in subsection (f).

SEC. 2422. SPECIAL RULE FOR REDISTRICTING CONDUCTED UNDER ORDER OF FEDERAL COURT.

If a Federal court requires a State to conduct redistricting subsequent to an apportionment of Representatives in the State in order to comply with the Constitution or to enforce the Voting Rights Act of 1965, section 2413 shall apply with respect to the redistricting, except that the court may vary any of the deadlines set forth in such section as it deems necessary in order to provide for a timely enactment of a new redistricting plan for the State.

PART 4—ADMINISTRATIVE AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

SEC. 2431. PAYMENTS TO STATES FOR CARRYING OUT REDISTRICTING.

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF PAYMENTS.—Subject to subsection (d), not later than 30 days after a State receives a State apportionment notice, the Election Assistance Commission shall, subject to section 2412, make a payment to the State to implement the State redistricting plan, and to otherwise carry out congressional redistricting in the State.

(b) USE OF FUNDS.—A State shall use the payment under this section to establish and operate the State’s independent redistricting commission, to develop the redistricting plan, and to otherwise carry out congressional redistricting in the State.

(c) NO PAYMENT TO STATES WITH SINGLE MEMBER CONGRESS.—If the State is a State with a single member congressional district, the Election Assistance Commission may not make a payment to the State under this section until the State certifies to the Commission that its redistricting commission meets the requirements of section 2401(c).

(3) EXCEPTION FOR STATE OF IOWA.—In the case of the State of Iowa, the Election Assistance Commission may not make a payment to the State under this section until the State certifies to the Commission that it will carry out congressional redistricting in the State’s single member congressional district in accordance with a plan developed by the Iowa Legislative Services Agency with the assistance of a Temporary Redistricting Advisory Commission provided under the law described in section 2401(d).

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary for payments under this section.

SEC. 2432. CIVIL ENFORCEMENT.

(a) CIVIL ENFORCEMENT.—(1) ACTIONS BY ATTORNEY GENERAL.—The Attorney General may bring a civil action in an appropriate district court for such relief as may be appropriate to carry out this subtitle.

(2) AVAILABILITY OF PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.—Any citizen of a State who is aggrieved by the failure of the State to meet the requirements of this subtitle may bring a civil action in the United States district court for the State for such relief as may be appropriate to remedy the failure. For purposes of this section, the “applicable venue” is the District of Columbia or the judicial district in which the capital of the State is located, as selected by the person who brings the civil action.

(b) EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION.—In any action brought forth under this section, the following rules shall apply:

(1) The action shall be filed in the district court of the United States for the District of Columbia or for the judicial district in which the capital of the State is located, as selected by the person bringing the action.

(2) The action shall be heard by a 3-judge court convened pursuant to section 2284 of title 28, United States Code.

(3) The 3-judge court shall consolidate actions brought for relief under subsection (b)(1) with respect to the same State redistricting plan.

(4) A copy of the complaint shall be delivered promptly to the Clerk of the House of Representatives and the Secretary of the Senate.

(5) A final decision in an action brought forth under this section shall be reviewable only by appeal directly to the Supreme Court of the United States. Such appeal shall be taken by the filing of a notice of appeal within 10 days after the filing of a jurisdictional statement within 30 days of the entry of the final decision.

(6) It shall be the duty of the district court and the Supreme Court of the United States to advance on the docket and to expedite to the greatest possible extent the disposition of the action and appeal.

(c) REMEDIES.—(1) ADOPTION OF REPLACEMENT PLAN.—(A) IN GENERAL.—If the district court in an action under this section finds that the congressional redistricting plan of a State violates the Constitution or to enforce the Voting Rights Act of 1965, the district court shall adopt a replacement congressional redistricting plan of the State in accordance with the process set forth in section 2421; or

(i) if circumstances warrant and no delay is necessary, the district court may develop and publish a remedial congressional redistricting plan for consideration by the Court, and such remedial plan may be developed by the State by adopting such appropriate changes to the State’s enacted plan as may be ordered by the Court;

(B) SPECIAL RULE IN CASE FINAL ADJUDICATION NOT EXPECTED WITHIN 3 MONTHS OF ELECTION—
If final adjudication of an action under this section is not reasonably expected to be completed at least three months prior to the next regularly scheduled election for the House of Representatives in the State, the district court shall, as the balance of equities warrant—

(i) order development, adoption, and use of an interim congressional redistricting plan in accordance with section 242(e) to address any claims under this title for which a party seeking relief has demonstrated a substantial likelihood of success; or

(ii) order adjustments to the timing of primary elections for the House of Representatives, as needed, to allow sufficient opportunity for adjudication of the matter and adoption of a remedial order (or other relief) for use in regularly scheduled general elections for the House of Representatives.

(2) NO INJUNCTIVE RELIEF PERMITTED.—Any remedial or replacement congressional redistricting plan ordered under this subsection shall not be subject to temporary or preliminary injunction from any court until the record establishes that a writ of mandamus is warranted.

(3) NO STAY PENDING APPEAL.—Notwithstanding the appeal of an order finding that a congressional redistricting plan of a State violates section 2451, no stay shall issue which shall bar this subtitle, no stay shall issue which shall bar proceedings for such interim congressional redistricting plan ordered under this subsection shall not be subject to temporary or preliminary injunction from any court until the record establishes that a writ of mandamus is warranted.

(2) No stay pending appeal.—Notwithstanding the appeal of an order finding that a congressional redistricting plan of a State violates, in whole or in part, the requirements of this subtitle, no stay shall issue which shall bar the development or adoption of a replacement or remedial plan under this subsection, as may be directed by the district court, pending such appeal.

(3) Attorney’s fees.—In a civil action under this section, the court may award the prevailing party (other than the United States) reasonable attorney fees, including litigation expenses, and costs.

(e) RELATION TO OTHER LAWS.—

(1) Rights and remedies additional to other rights and remedies.—The rights and remedies established by this section are in addition to all other rights and remedies provided by law, and neither the rights and remedies established by this section nor any other provision of this subtitle shall supersede, restrict, or limit the application of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10301 et seq.).

(2) Voting Rights Act of 1965.—Nothing in this subtitle authorizes or requires conduct that is prohibited by the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10301 et seq.).

(f) LEGISLATIVE PRIVILEGE.—No person, legislature, or legislative body of a State shall be liable for civil action brought under this section or in any other legal challenge, under either State or Federal law, to a redistricting plan enacted under this subtitle.

SEC. 2433. STATE APPOINTMENT NOTICE DEFINED.

In this subtitle, the “State appointment notice” means, with respect to a State, the notice sent to the State from the Clerk of the House of Representatives under section 22(b) of the Act entitled “Provisions for the fifteen-year and subsequent decennial censuses and to provide for an appointment of Representatives in Congress”, approved June 18, 1929 (2 U.S.C. 2a), of the number of Representatives to which the State is entitled.

SEC. 2434. NO EFFECT ON ELECTIONS FOR STATE AND LOCAL OFFICE.

Nothing in this subtitle or in any amendment made by this subtitle may be construed to affect the manner in which a State carries out elections for State or local office, including the process by which a State establishes the districts used in such elections.

SEC. 2435. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This subtitle and the amendments made by this subtitle shall apply with respect to redistricting plans ordered pursuant to the decennial census conducted during 2030 or any succeeding decennial census.

PART 5—REQUIREMENTS FOR REDISTRICTING CARRIED OUT PURSUANT TO 2020 CENSUS

Subpart A—Application of Certain Requirements for Redistricting Carried Out Pursuant to 2020 Census

SEC. 2441. APPLICATION OF CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS FOR REDISTRICTING CARRIED OUT PURSUANT TO 2020 CENSUS.

Notwithstanding section 2435, parts 1, 3, and 4 of this subtitle and the amendments made by such parts and the amendments made by this subtitle to sections 2451, 2452, and 2453 prior to the expiration of the deadline under section 2452(b) prior to the expiration of the deadline under section 2454(b).

(a) APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS.—

(1) The independent redistricting commission of a State shall establish an independent redistricting commission for the State, which shall consist of at least 15 members appointed by the Governor of the State.

(2) The failure of the independent redistricting commission to appoint a Select Committee on Redistricting under section 2454(b) prior to the expiration of the deadline under section 2454(b).

(b) PROCEDURES FOR CONDUCTING COMMISSION BUSINESS.—

(1) Requiring majority approval for actions.—The independent redistricting commission of a State under this part may not publish and disseminate any draft or final redistricting plan, or take any other action, without the approval of at least—

(A) a majority of the whole membership of the commission; or

(B) at least one member of the commission appointed from each of the categories of the approved selection pool described in section 2452(b)(1)(B).

(2) Quorum.—A majority of the members of the commission shall constitute a quorum.

(c) STAFF; CONTRACTORS.—

(1) Staff.—Under a public application process in which all application materials are available for public inspection, the independent redistricting commission of a State under this part may appoint and set the pay of technical experts, legal counsel, consultants, and such other staff as it considers appropriate, subject to State law.

(2) Contractors.—The independent redistricting commission of a State may enter into such contracts with vendors as it considers appropriate, subject to State law. Any such contract shall be valid only if approved by the vote of a majority of the members of the
commission, including at least one member appointed from each of the categories of the approved selection pool described in section 2452(b)(1).

SEC. 2452. ESTABLISHMENT OF SELECTION POOL OF INDIVIDUALS ELIGIBLE TO SERVE AS MEMBERS OF COMMISSION.

(a) CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—An individual is eligible to serve as a member of an independent redistricting commission under this part if the individual meets each of the following criteria:

(A) As of the date of appointment, the individual is registered to vote with any political party.

(B) The individual or an immediate family member of the individual holds public office or has not been registered to vote with any political party.

(C) The individual or an immediate family member of the individual is an employee of an elected public official, a contractor with the government of the State, or a donor to the campaign committee for public office or to any political action committee (other than a donor who, during any of such covered periods, gives an aggregate amount of $1,000 or less to any of the campaigns of all candidates for public offices and to all political action committees).

(D) The individual or an immediate family member of the individual is an agent of a foreign principal under the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended (22 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.).

(E) The individual paid a civil penalty or criminal fine, and has been sentenced to a term of imprisonment, for violating any provision of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 20001 et seq.).

(F) The individual or an immediate family member of the individual is an officer of the individual is affiliated with a political party only if the nonpartisan agency is able to verify (to the greatest extent possible) the information submitted under subsection (a)(1)(C), in including by considering additional information provided by other persons with knowledge of the individual’s history of political activity.

(b) DEVELOPMENT AND SUBMISSION OF SELECTION POOL.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than July 15, 2021, the nonpartisan agency shall develop and submit to the Select Committee on Redistricting for the State established under section 2454(b) a selection pool of 36 individuals who are eligible to serve as members of the independent redistricting commission of the State under this part, consisting of individuals in the following categories:

(A) A majority category, consisting of 12 individuals who are affiliated with the political party whose candidate received the most votes in the most recent Statewide election for Federal office held in the State.

(B) A minority category, consisting of 12 individuals who are affiliated with the political party whose candidate received the second most votes in the most recent Statewide election for Federal office held in the State.

(C) An independent category, consisting of 12 individuals who are affiliated with the political parties described in subparagraph (A) or subparagraph (B).

(2) FACTORS TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN DEVELOPING SELECTION POOL.—In selecting individuals for the selection pool under this subsection, the nonpartisan agency shall—

(A) ensure that the pool is representative of the demographic groups (including racial, ethnic, economic, and gender) and geographic regions of the State, and includes applicants who would allow the agency to meet the minority protections under the Voting Rights Act of 1965 a meaningful opportunity to participate in the development of the State’s redistricting plan;

(b) take into consideration the analytical skills of the individuals selected in relevant fields (including mapping, data management, law, community outreach, demographics, and the geography of the State) and their ability to work on an impartial basis.

(c) DETERMINATION OF POLITICAL PARTY AFFILIATION OF INDIVIDUALS IN SELECTION POOL.—For purposes of this section, an individual shall be considered to be affiliated with a political party only if the nonpartisan agency is able to verify (to the greatest extent possible) the information individuals provided in the application submitted under subsection (a)(1)(C), in including by considering additional information provided by other persons with knowledge of the individual’s history of political activity.

(d) ENROLLMENT OF INDEPENDENT POOL.—The agency shall take such steps as it considers appropriate to ensure that any staff appointed under this subsection, and any vendor with whom the commission contracts under this subsection, will work in an impartial manner.

(e) PRESERVATION OF RECORDS.—The State shall ensure that the records of the independent redistricting commission are retained in the appropriate State archive in such manner as may be necessary to enable the State to respond to any civil action brought with respect to congressional districting redistricting under this part.

(f) PRESERVATION OF RECORDS.—The State shall ensure that the records of the independent redistricting commission are retained in the appropriate State archive in such manner as may be necessary to enable the State to respond to any civil action brought with respect to congressional districting under this part.

(g) PRESERVATION OF RECORDS.—The State shall ensure that the records of the independent redistricting commission are retained in the appropriate State archive in such manner as may be necessary to enable the State to respond to any civil action brought with respect to congressional districting under this part.

(h) PRESERVATION OF RECORDS.—The State shall ensure that the records of the independent redistricting commission are retained in the appropriate State archive in such manner as may be necessary to enable the State to respond to any civil action brought with respect to congressional districting under this part.

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(j) PRESERVATION OF RECORDS.—The State shall ensure that the records of the independent redistricting commission are retained in the appropriate State archive in such manner as may be necessary to enable the State to respond to any civil action brought with respect to congressional districting under this part.

(k) PRESERVATION OF RECORDS.—The State shall ensure that the records of the independent redistricting commission are retained in the appropriate State archive in such manner as may be necessary to enable the State to respond to any civil action brought with respect to congressional districting under this part.

(l) PRESERVATION OF RECORDS.—The State shall ensure that the records of the independent redistricting commission are retained in the appropriate State archive in such manner as may be necessary to enable the State to respond to any civil action brought with respect to congressional districting under this part.

(m) PRESERVATION OF RECORDS.—The State shall ensure that the records of the independent redistricting commission are retained in the appropriate State archive in such manner as may be necessary to enable the State to respond to any civil action brought with respect to congressional districting under this part.

(n) PRESERVATION OF RECORDS.—The State shall ensure that the records of the independent redistricting commission are retained in the appropriate State archive in such manner as may be necessary to enable the State to respond to any civil action brought with respect to congressional districting under this part.

(o) PRESERVATION OF RECORDS.—The State shall ensure that the records of the independent redistricting commission are retained in the appropriate State archive in such manner as may be necessary to enable the State to respond to any civil action brought with respect to congressional districting under this part.

(p) PRESERVATION OF RECORDS.—The State shall ensure that the records of the independent redistricting commission are retained in the appropriate State archive in such manner as may be necessary to enable the State to respond to any civil action brought with respect to congressional districting under this part.

(q) PRESERVATION OF RECORDS.—The State shall ensure that the records of the independent redistricting commission are retained in the appropriate State archive in such manner as may be necessary to enable the State to respond to any civil action brought with respect to congressional districting under this part.

(r) PRESERVATION OF RECORDS.—The State shall ensure that the records of the independent redistricting commission are retained in the appropriate State archive in such manner as may be necessary to enable the State to respond to any civil action brought with respect to congressional districting under this part.

(s) PRESERVATION OF RECORDS.—The State shall ensure that the records of the independent redistricting commission are retained in the appropriate State archive in such manner as may be necessary to enable the State to respond to any civil action brought with respect to congressional districting under this part.

(t) PRESERVATION OF RECORDS.—The State shall ensure that the records of the independent redistricting commission are retained in the appropriate State archive in such manner as may be necessary to enable the State to respond to any civil action brought with respect to congressional districting under this part.

(u) PRESERVATION OF RECORDS.—The State shall ensure that the records of the independent redistricting commission are retained in the appropriate State archive in such manner as may be necessary to enable the State to respond to any civil action brought with respect to congressional districting under this part.

(v) PRESERVATION OF RECORDS.—The State shall ensure that the records of the independent redistricting commission are retained in the appropriate State archive in such manner as may be necessary to enable the State to respond to any civil action brought with respect to congressional districting under this part.

(w) PRESERVATION OF RECORDS.—The State shall ensure that the records of the independent redistricting commission are retained in the appropriate State archive in such manner as may be necessary to enable the State to respond to any civil action brought with respect to congressional districting under this part.

(x) PRESERVATION OF RECORDS.—The State shall ensure that the records of the independent redistricting commission are retained in the appropriate State archive in such manner as may be necessary to enable the State to respond to any civil action brought with respect to congressional districting under this part.

(y) PRESERVATION OF RECORDS.—The State shall ensure that the records of the independent redistricting commission are retained in the appropriate State archive in such manner as may be necessary to enable the State to respond to any civil action brought with respect to congressional districting under this part.

(z) PRESERVATION OF RECORDS.—The State shall ensure that the records of the independent redistricting commission are retained in the appropriate State archive in such manner as may be necessary to enable the State to respond to any civil action brought with respect to congressional districting under this part.

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than August 1, 2021, the Select Committee on Redistricting shall—

(i) approve the pool as submitted by the nonpartisan agency, and in which case the pool shall be considered the approved selection pool for purposes of this section; and

(ii) reject the pool, in which case the redistricting plan for the State shall be developed and enacted in accordance with part 3, the pool of individuals developed by the Select Committee on Redistricting fails to meet the eligibility criteria of subsection (a) of this section, and the pool shall be deemed to have rejected the pool for purposes of such subparagraph.

SEC. 2453. CRITERIA FOR REDISTRICTING PLAN; PUBLIC NOTICE AND INPUT.

(a) PUBLIC NOTICE AND INPUT.—

(1) USE OF OPEN AND TRANSPARENT PROCESS.—The independent redistricting commission of a State under this part shall hold each of its meetings in public, in which case the commission shall solicit, accept, and consider comments from the public with respect to its duties, activities, and procedures at any time until 7 days before the date of the meeting at which the commission shall vote on approving the final redistricting plan for enactment into law under subsection (c).

(b) MEETINGS AND HEARINGS IN VARIOUS GEOGRAPHIC LOCATIONS.—To the greatest extent practicable, the commission shall hold its meetings and hearings in such geographic regions and locations throughout the State.

(c) MULTIPLE LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL NOTICES.—The commission shall make each notice required by this section available in any language in which the State or any jurisdiction in the State is required to provide election materials under sections 4(b) and 6(b) of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.
(1) IN GENERAL.—Prior to developing and publishing a final redistricting plan under subsection (c), the independent redistricting commission of a State under this part shall develop and publish preliminary redistricting plans.

(2) MINIMUM PUBLIC HEARINGS AND OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMENT PRIOR TO DEVELOPMENT.—

(A) HEARINGS.—The commission shall hold not fewer than 2 public hearings at which members of the public may submit comments regarding the potential contents of redistricting plans for the State and the process by which the commission will develop the preliminary plan under this subsection.

(B) NOTICE PRIOR TO HEARINGS.—The commission shall provide for the publication of notices of each hearing held under this paragraph, including in newspapers of general circulation throughout the State.

(C) SUBMISSION OF PLANS AND MAPS BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.—Any member of the public may submit maps or portions of maps for consideration by the commission prior to developing a preliminary redistricting plan under this subsection, including through newspapers of general circulation throughout the State.

(3) PUBLICATION OF PRELIMINARY PLAN.—The commission shall provide for the publication of the preliminary plan developed and published under this subsection, including in newspapers of general circulation throughout the State, and shall make publicly available a report that includes responses to any public comments received under this subsection.

(4) PUBLIC COMMENT AFTER PUBLICATION.—

(A) 2 HEARINGS REQUIRED.—After publishing the preliminary redistricting plan under paragraph (3), and not later than 14 days before the date of the meeting under subsection (c)(2) at which the members of the commission shall vote on approving the final redistricting plan for enactment into law, the commission shall hold not fewer than 2 public hearings at which members of the public may submit comments regarding the preliminary plan.

(B) NOTICE PRIOR TO HEARINGS.—The commission shall provide for the publication of notices of each hearing held under this paragraph, including in newspapers of general circulation throughout the State.

(6) PERMITTING MULTIPLE PRELIMINARY PLANS.—At the option of the commission, after developing and publishing the preliminary redistricting plan under subsection (c), the commission may develop and publish subsequent preliminary redistricting plans, so long as the process for the development and publication of each such plan meets the requirements set forth in this subsection for the development and publication of the first preliminary redistricting plan.

(7) PROCESS FOR ENACTMENT OF FINAL REDISTRICTING PLAN.—

(A) THE FINAL REDISTRICTING PLAN, INCLUDING ALL RELEVANT MAPS.—If the commission approves a preliminary redistricting plan under subsection (c), the commission shall adopt the final redistricting plan, including all relevant maps.

(B) REPORT BY THE COMMISSION.—A report by the commission accompanying the plan which the commission has adopted as the final redistricting plan, including responses to the public comments received on any preliminary redistricting plan developed and published under this section.

(C) PUBLIC COMMENT AFTER PUBLICATION.—The final redistricting plan developed and published under this subsection shall be deemed to be enacted into law upon the expiration of the 45-day period which begins on the date on which

(1) such final plan is approved by a majority of the whole membership of the commission; and

(2) at least one member of the commission appointed from each of the categories of the approved selection pool described in section 2452(b)(1) approves such final plan.

(D) WITHHOLDING OF PLAN AGAINST EXTERNAL METRICS.—The independent redistricting commission of a State under this part shall consult with and seek the approval of the governor of each political party represented in the legislature with respect to the plan.

(E) PUBLICATION OF PLAN AND ACCOMPANYING MATERIALS.—Not fewer than 14 days before the date of the meeting under paragraph (2), the commission shall make the following information available to the public, including through newspapers of general circulation throughout the State:

(1) THE FINAL REDISTRICTING PLAN, INCLUDING ALL RELEVANT MAPS.

(2) A REPORT BY THE COMMISSION ACCOMPANYING THE PLAN, INCLUDING RESPONSES TO ANY PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED ON ANY PRELIMINARY REDISTRICTING PLAN DEVELOPED AND PUBLISHED UNDER THIS SECTION.

(3) Any dissenting or additional views with respect to the plan of individual members of the commission.

(F) ENACTMENT.—The final redistricting plan developed and published under this subsection shall be deemed to be enacted into law upon the expiration of the 45-day period which begins on the date on which

(1) such final plan is approved by a majority of the whole membership of the commission; and

(2) at least one member of the commission appointed from each of the categories of the approved selection pool described in section 2452(b)(1) approves such final plan.

(G) DEADLINE.—The State shall meet the requirements of this subsection not later than June 1, 2021.

(H) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection may be construed to prohibit the leader or any political party in a legislature from appointing to the Select Committee on Redistricting.

SEC. 2454. ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATED ENTITIES.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OR DESIGNATION OF NON-PARTISAN AGENCY OF STATE LEGISLATURE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Each State shall establish a nonpartisan agency in the legislative branch of the State government to appoint the members of the independent redistricting commission for the State under this part in accordance with section 2451.

(2) NONPARTISANSHIP DESCRIBED.—For purposes of this subsection, an agency shall be considered to be nonpartisan if, under law the agency:

(A) is required to provide services on a nonpartisan basis;

(B) is required to maintain impartiality; and

(C) is prohibited from advocating for the adoption or rejection of any legislative proposal.

(b) DESIGNATION OF EXISTING AGENCY.—At its option, a State may designate an existing agency in the legislative branch of the State government to appoint the members of the independent redistricting commission for the State under this part, subject to the requirements for nonpartisanship under this subsection.

(c) TERMINATION OF AGENCY SPECIFICALLY ESTABLISHED FOR REDISTRICTING.—If a State does not designate an existing agency under paragraph (3) but instead establishes a new agency to serve as the independent redistricting commission for the State under this part, the new agency shall constitute a State agency created specifically for the purposes of this subsection.

(d) REQUIREMENTS FOR NONPARTISAN AGENCY.—A State agency created specifically for the purposes of this subsection may not designate an existing agency under this part, so long as the agency meets the requirements for nonpartisanship under this subsection.

(e) PUBLICATION OF RECORDS.—The State shall ensure that the records of the nonpartisan agency are retained in the appropriate State archive in such manner as may be necessary to ensure that the records are brought with respect to congressional redistricting in the State.

(6) DEADLINE.—The State shall meet the requirements of this subsection not later than July 1, 2021.

(f) ESTABLISHMENT OF SELECT COMMITTEE ON REDISTRICTING.

(1) IN GENERAL.—Each State shall appoint a Select Committee on Redistricting for a State to review the plan adopted by the independent redistricting commission for the State under this part, in accordance with section 2452.

(2) APPOINTMENT.—The Select Committee on Redistricting for a State under this subsection shall consist of the following members:

(A) One member of the upper house of the State legislature, who shall be appointed by the leader of the party with the second greatest number of seats in the upper house.

(B) One member of the upper house of the State legislature, who shall be appointed by the leader of any political party in a legislature from among the members of that party in the upper house.

(C) One member of the lower house of the State legislature, who shall be appointed by the leader of any political party in a legislature from among the members of that party in the lower house.

(D) One member of the lower house of the State legislature, who shall be appointed by the leader of any political party in a legislature from among the members of that party in the lower house.

(E) PERMITTING MULTIPLE SELECT COMMITTEES.—A State may appoint more than one Select Committee on Redistricting for a State to review the plan adopted by the independent redistricting commission for the State under this part.
State verifies, on the basis of objective and reli-
able evidence, that the registrant is ineligible to vote in such elections.

"(2) FACTORS NOT CONSIDERED AS OBJECTIVE AND RELIABLE EVIDENCE OF INELIGIBILITY.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the following factors, or any combination thereof, shall not be treated as objective and reliable evidence of a registrant's ineligibility:

"(A) The failure of the registrant to vote in any election.

"(B) The failure of the registrant to respond to any action with respect to voting in any election, with respect to the registrant's status as a registrant.

"(C) The failure of the registrant to take any other action with respect to voting in any election, with respect to the registrant's status as a registrant.

"(D) PUBLIC NOTICE.—Not later than 48 hours after a State removes the name of a registrant from the official list of eligible voters for any reason (other than the death of the registrant), the State shall send notice of the removal to the former registrant, and shall include in the notice the grounds for the removal and information on how the former registrant may contest the removal, including a telephone number for the appropriate election officials.

"(E) EXCEPTIONS.—Subparagraph (A) does not apply to a registrant—

"(i) who sends written confirmation to the State that the registrant is no longer eligible to vote in the registrant's jurisdiction in which the registrant was registered; or

"(ii) who is removed from the official list of eligible voters by reason of the death of the registrant.

"(F) PUBLIC NOTICE.—Not later than 48 hours after conducting any general program to remove the names of ineligible voters from the official list of eligible voters (as described in section 8(a)(4)), the State shall disseminate a public notice through such methods as may be reasonable to reach the general public (including by publishing the notice in a newspaper of wide circulation or posting the notice on the websites of the appropriate election officials) that list maintenance is taking place and that registrants should check their registration status to ensure no errors or mistakes have been made. The State shall ensure that the public notice disseminated under this paragraph is in a format that is reasonably convenient and accessible to voters with disabilities, including voters who have low vision or are blind.

"(G) CONDITIONS FOR TRANSMISSION OF NOTICES OF REMOVAL.—Section 8(d) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 20507(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(4) A State may not transmit a notice to a registrant under this subsection unless the State obtains objective and reliable evidence (in accordance with the standards for such evidence which are described in section 8A(a)(2)) that the registrant has changed residence to a place outside the registrar's jurisdiction in which the registrant is registered.

"(H) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

"(I) NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION ACT OF 1993.—Section 8(a) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 20507(a)) is amended—

"(A) in paragraph (3), by striking "provide" and inserting "subject to section 8A, provide"; and

"(B) in paragraph (4), by striking "conduct" and inserting "subject to section 8A, conduct".

"(J) HELP AMERICA VOTE ACT OF 2002.—Section 303(a)(4) of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 20803(a)(4)(A)) is amended by striking "registrants" and inserting "subject to section 8A, such Act, registrants".

"(K) The amendments made by this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

Subsection G—No Effect on Authority of States To Provide Greater Opportunities for Voting

SEC. 2601. NO EFFECT ON AUTHORITY OF STATES TO PROVIDE GREATER OPPORTUNITIES FOR VOTING.

Nothing in this title or the amendments made by this title may be construed to prohibit any State from enacting any law which provides greater opportunities for voters to register to vote and to vote in elections for Federal office unless that provision is a law which requires the address listed on a voter's driver's license to match the address on the official list of eligible voters for any reason.

Section 2601. No Effect on Authority of States To Provide Greater Opportunities for Voting

Nothing in this title or the amendments made by this title may be construed to prohibit any State from enacting any law which provides greater opportunities for voters to register to vote and to vote in elections for Federal office unless that provision is a law which requires the address listed on a voter's driver's license to match the address on the official list of eligible voters for any reason.

Subsection H—Evidence of Incarcerated Individuals

SEC. 2701. RESIDENCE OF INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS.

Section 141 of title 13, United States Code, is amended—

"(1) by redesignating subsection (g) as subsection (h); and

"(2) by inserting after subsection (f) the following:

"(g)(1) Effective beginning with the 2020 decen-

cennial census of population, in taking any tab-

ulation of total population by States under sub-

section (a) for purposes of the apportionment of Representatives in Congress among the several States, the Secretary shall, with respect to a State, Federal, county, or municipal correctional center as of the date on which such census is taken, at-

tribute such institution's individual's last place of residence before incarceration.

"(2) In carrying out this subsection, the Secre-

tary shall consult with each State department of corrections and such other information neces-

sary to make the determination required under paragraph (1)."

Subsection I—Findings Relating to Youth Voting

SEC. 2601. FINDINGS RELATING TO YOUTH VOTING.

Congress finds the following:

"(1) The right to vote is a fundamental right of citizens of the United States; and

"(2) The twenty-sixth amendment of the United States Constitution guarantees that "The right of citizens of the United States who are eighteen years of age or older, to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of age."

"(3) The twenty-sixth amendment of the United States Constitution grants Congress the power to enforce the amendment by appropriate legis-

lation.

"(4) The language of the twenty-sixth amend-

ment closely mirrors that of the fifteenth amend-

ment and the nineteenth amendment. Like those amendments, the twenty-sixth amendment not only prohibits denial of the right to vote but also prohibits any actions that abridge the right to vote.

"(5) Youth voter suppression undercuts partici-

pation in our democracy by introducing arduous obstacles to new voters and discouraging a cul-

ture of democratic engagement.

"(6) Voting is habit forming, and allowing youth voters unrestricted access to voting en-

sures that more Americans will start a life-long habit of voting as soon as possible.

"(7) Youth voter suppression creates a clear, per-

sistent, and growing problem. The actions of States and political subdivisions resulting in at least four findings of twenty-sixth amendment violations as well as pending litigation demon-

strate the need for Congress to take action to enforce the twenty-sixth amendment.

"(8) In League of Women Voters of Florida, Inc. v. Hooker (2012, United States District Court in the Northern District of Florida) found that the Secretary of State's actions that pre-

vented in-person early voting sites from being located in central city hubs created a stark pattern of discrimination that was unexplainable on grounds other than age and thus violated university students' twenty-sixth Amendment rights.

"(9) In 2016, Michigan agreed to a settlement to enhance college-age voters' access after a twen-

ty-sixth amendment challenge was filed in fed-

eral court. The challenge prompted the removal of a Michigan voting law which required first time voters who registered by mail or through a third-party voter registration to register to vote in person for the first time, as well as the removal of another law which required the address listed on a voter's driver's license to match the address listed on the voter's registration. In 2019, Michigan consented to a decree to continue to remove the requirement that a voter register to vote in person for the first time.

"(10) Youth voter suppression tactics are often linked to other tactics aimed at minority voters. For example, students at Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU), a historically black univer-

sity in Texas, have been the targets of voter suppression tactics for decades. Before the 2018 election, PVAMU students sued Waller County on the basis of both racial and racialized under-repre-

sentation over the County's failure to ensure equal early voting opportunities for students, spurring the County to reverse course and expand early voting access for students.

"(11) The more than 25 million United States citizens ages 18-24 deserve equal opportunity to participate in the electoral process as guaran-
teed by the twenty-sixth amendment.

Subsection J—Securability

SEC. 2901. SEVERABILITY.

If any provision of this title or amendment made by this title, or the application of a provi-

dence or amendment made by this title, to any cir-

cumstance, is held to be unconstitutional, the remainder of this title and amendments made by this title, and the application of the provisions and amendment to any person or circumstance, shall not be affected by such holding.

TITLE III—ELECTION SECURITY

Subsection A—National Security for Support for Election Infrastructure

Part I—Voting System Security

Sec. 3001. Grants for obtaining compliant paper ballot voting systems and carrying out voting system security im-

provements.

Sec. 3002. Coordination of voting system security activities with use of require-

ments payments and election administration requirements under Help America Vote Act of 2002.

Sec. 3003. Incorporation of definitions.

Part 2—Grants for Risk-Limiting Audits of Results of Elections

Sec. 3011. Grants to States for conducting risk-lim-

iting audits of results of elections.

Sec. 3012. GAO analysis of effects of audits.

Part 3—Election Infrastructure Innovation Grant Program

Sec. 3021. Election infrastructure innovation grant program.

Subsection B—Security Measures

Sec. 3011. Election infrastructure designation.

Sec. 3012. Timely threat information.

Sec. 3013. Security clearance assistance for elec-

tion officials.

Sec. 3014. Security risk and vulnerability as-

sessments.

Sec. 3015. Annual reports.

Sec. 3016. Pre-election threat assessments.

Subsection C—Enhancing Protections for United States Democratic Institutions

Sec. 3011. National strategy to protect United States democratic institutions.

Sec. 3012. National Commission to Protect United States Democratic Institutions.

Subsection D—Promoting Cybersecurity Through Improvements in Election Administration

Sec. 3301. Testing of existing voting systems to ensure compliance with election cybersecurity guidelines and other guidelines.

April 22, 2021
ELECTION INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY.—It is the purpose of this new part:

Sec. 3402. Election Security Bug Bounty Program. Each State—

(1) to implement and model best practices for ballot design, ballot instructions, and the testing of ballots.

(2) AMOUNT OF GRANT.—The amount of a grant made to a State under this section shall be such amount as the Commission determines to be appropriate, except that such amount may not be less than the product of $1 and the average cost of each vote cast in any of the two most recent regularly scheduled general elections for Federal office held in the State.

(3) PRO RATA REDUCTIONS.—If the amount of funds appropriated for grants under this part is insufficient to ensure that each State receives the amount calculated under subsection (b), the Commission shall make pro rata reductions in such amounts as may be necessary to ensure that the entire amount appropriated under this part is distributed to the States.

(4) SURPLUS APPROPRIATIONS.—If the amount of funds appropriated for grants authorized under subsection (b) exceed the amount necessary to meet the requirements of subsection (b), the Commission shall consider the following in making a determination to award remaining balances:

(1) The record of the State in carrying out the following with respect to the administration of elections at all levels of government:

(A) The acquisition of goods and services from qualified election infrastructure vendors by the State, and the proposed plan of the State for implementing additional conditions.

(B) The maintenance of election infrastructure official of any State to which the vendor provides any services with funds provided under this part, of any sourcing outside the United States for parts of the election infrastructure.

(C) The vendor must disclose to the Chairman and the Secretary, and to the chief State election official of any State to which the vendor provides any services with funds provided under this part, the identification of any entity or individual with a more than five percent ownership interest in the vendor, election infrastructure on behalf of a State, unit of local government, or election agency (as defined in section 2001 of the Election Security Act) that makes the criteria described in this subparagraph the criteria described in this paragraph.

(2) CRITERIA.—The criteria described in this paragraph are such criteria as the Chairman, in consultation with the Commission on Election Security, shall establish and publish, and shall include each of the following requirements:

(A) The vendor must be owned and controlled by a citizen or permanent resident of the United States.

(B) The vendor must disclose to the Chairman and the Secretary, and to the chief State election official of any State to which the vendor provides any services with funds provided under this part, of any sourcing outside the United States for parts of the election infrastructure.

(C) The vendor must disclose to the Chairman and the Secretary, and to the chief State election official of any State to which the vendor provides any services with funds provided under this part, the identification of any entity or individual with a more than five percent ownership interest in the vendor, election infrastructure on behalf of a State, unit of local government, or election agency (as defined in section 2001 of the Election Security Act) that makes the criteria described in this subparagraph the criteria described in this paragraph.

(3) Evidence of collaboration between relevant stakeholders, including local election officials, in developing the grant implementation plan described in section 29B.

(4) The plan of the State to conduct a rigorous evaluation of the effectiveness of the activities carried out with the grant.

(5) ABILITY OF REPLACEMENT SYSTEMS TO ADMINISTER RANKED CHOICE ELECTIONS.—To the greatest extent practicable, an eligible State which receives a grant to replace a voting system under this section shall ensure that the replacement system is capable of administering a system of ranked choice voting under which each voter shall rank the candidates for the office in the order of the voter’s preference.

Sec. 29A. VOTING SYSTEM SECURITY IMPROVEMENTS.

(a) PERMITTED USES.—A voting system security improvement described in this section is any of the following:

(1) The acquisition of goods and services from qualified election infrastructure vendors by purchase, lease, or such other arrangements as may be appropriate.

(2) Cyber and risk mitigation training.

(3) A security risk and vulnerability assessment of the State’s election infrastructure which is carried out by a vendor under a contract entered into between the chief State election official and the provider.

(4) The maintenance of election infrastructure, including addressing risks and vulnerabilities which are identified under either of the security risk and vulnerability assessments described in paragraph (3), except that none of the funds provided under this part may be used to renovate or replace a building or facility which is used primarily for purposes other than the administration of elections for public office.

(5) Providing increased technical support for any information technology infrastructure that the chief State election official deems to be part of the State’s election infrastructure or designates as critical to the operation of the State’s election infrastructure.

(6) Enhancing the cybersecurity and operations of the information technology infrastructure described in paragraph (4).

(7) Enhancing the cybersecurity of voter registration systems.

(8) QUALIFIED ELECTION INFRASTRUCTURE VENDORS DESCRIBED.—

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This title may be cited as the “Election Security Act”.

(b) SENATE REPORT ON NEED TO IMPROVE ELECTION INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY.—It is the sense of Congress that, in light of the lessons learned from Russian interference in the 2016 Presidential election, the Federal Government should intensify its efforts to improve the security of election infrastructure in the United States, including through the use of individual, durable, paper ballots marked by the voter by hand.

Subtitle A—Financial Support for Election Infrastructure

PART I—VOTING SYSTEM SECURITY IMPROVEMENT GRANTS


(a) Availability of Grants.—Subtitle D of title II of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 21001 et seq.), as amended by section 162(h), is amended by adding at the end the following:—

“PART 8—GRANTS FOR OBTAINING COMPLIANT PAPER BALLOT VOTING SYSTEMS AND CARRYING OUT VOTING SYSTEM SECURITY IMPROVEMENTS.


(a) Availability and Use of Grant.—The Commission shall make a grant to each eligible State—

(1) to replace a voting system—

(A) which does not meet the requirements which are first imposed on the State pursuant to the amendments made by the Voter Confidence and Protection Act of 2021 with a voting system which does meet such requirements, for use in the regularly scheduled general elections for Federal office held in November 2022.

(B) which does meet such requirements but which is not in compliance with the most recent voluntary voting system guidelines issued by the Commission prior to the regularly scheduled general election for Federal office held in November 2022 with another system which does meet such requirements and is in compliance with such guidelines.

(2) to carry out voting system security improvements described in section 298A with respect to the regularly scheduled general elections for Federal office held in November 2022 and each succeeding election for Federal office; and
(A) A description of how the State will use the grant to carry out the activities authorized under this part;

(2) A certification and assurance that, not later than 5 years after receiving the grant, the State will carry out risk-limiting audits and will vote or other means; and


(4) The term ‘election infrastructure’ has the meaning given such term in section 301 of the Election Security Act.

(5) The term ‘State’ means each of the several States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the United States Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

(b) Geographic Representation.—The members of the committee shall be a representative group of individuals from the State’s counties, cities, towns, and Indian tribes, and shall represent the needs of rural as well as urban areas of the State, as the case may be.

(c) State Eligibility.—A State is eligible to receive a grant under this part—

(1) if the State submits a notification meeting the requirements of subparagraph (A) or clause (i) or clause (ii) of subparagraph (B) to the agency in providing any other necessary notifications relating to the incident; and

(2) by inserting after subparagraph (D) the following new subparagraph:

(3) The term ‘State’ means each of the several States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the United States Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

(d) Goals of Periodic Studies of Election Security Improvements.—Section 3003 of the Act (52 U.S.C. 21003(a)(1)) is amended by striking the period at the end and inserting ', including the protection of election infrastructure.'.

SEC. 299. GRANTS FOR CONDUCTING RISK-LIMITING AUDITS OF RESULTS OF ELECTIONS.

(a) Availability of Grants.—Subtitle D of title II of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 21001 et seq.),(as amended by sections 1622(b) and 3001(a), is amended by adding at the end the following new part:

(2) A State may use the requirements payment to carry out any of the following activities:

(A) Cyber election security training.

(B) Providing increased technical support for any information technology infrastructure that the chief State election official deems to be part of the State’s election infrastructure or designates as critical to the operation of the State’s election infrastructure.

(C) Enhancing the cybersecurity and operations of the information technology infrastructure described in subparagraph (B).

(D) Enhancing the security of voter registration databases.

(3) INCORPORATION OF ELECTION INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION IN STATE PLANS FOR USE OF FUNDING.—Section 244(a)(1) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 21004(a)(1)) is amended by striking the period at the end and inserting ‘‘, including the protection of election infrastructure.’’.
"(1) which is conducted in accordance with rules and procedures established by the chief State election official of the State which meet the requirements of subsection (c); and

"(2) a certification that, not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this section, the chief State election official of the State has established or will establish the rules and procedures for conducting the audits which meet the requirements of section 299(c);

"(3) a certification that the audit shall be completed not later than the date on which the State certifies the results of the election; and

"(4) a certification that, after completing the audit, the State shall publish a report on the results of the audit, together with such information and assurances as the Commission may require.

SEC. 299B. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

"There are authorized to be appropriated for grants under this part $20,000,000 for fiscal year 2021, to remain available until expended.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents of this Act, as amended by sections 1622(c) and 3001(b), is further amended by adding at the end of the items relating to subtitle D of title II the following:

"PART 9—GRANTS FOR CONDUCTING RISK-LIMITING AUDITS OF RESULTS OF ELECTIONS"


Sec. 299A. Eligibility of States.

Sec. 299B. Authorization of appropriations.

SEC. 3012. GAO ANALYSIS OF EFFECTS OF AUDITS. (a) ANALYSIS.—Not later than 6 months after the first election for Federal office is held after grants are awarded under this part to conduct risk-limiting audits under part 9 of subtitle D of title II of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (as added by section 3011) for conducting risk-limiting audits of elections for Federal office, the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct an analysis of the extent to which such audits have improved the administration of such elections and the security of election infrastructure in the States receiving such grants.

(b) REPORT.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall submit the analysis conducted under subsection (a) to the appropriate congressional committees.

PART 3—ELECTION INFRASTRUCTURE INNOVATION GRANT PROGRAM

SEC. 3021. ELECTION INFRASTRUCTURE INNOVATION GRANT PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title III of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 181 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"Sec. 321. Election infrastructure innovation grant program.

"(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary, acting through the Under Secretary for Science and Technology, in coordination with the Chairman of the Election Assistance Commission, shall establish an election infrastructure innovation grant program to award grants to eligible entities, on a competitive basis, for purposes of research and development that are determined to have the potential to significantly improve the security (including cybersecurity), quality, reliability, accuracy, accessibility, and affordability of election infrastructure, and increase voter participation.

"(b) AMOUNT.—(1) The Secretary shall award not more than $500,000 to each eligible entity under this section.

"(2) Nothing in this section shall affect the Secretary's authority to make an award under section 8(d)(3)(C) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(d)(3)(C)).

"(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 310(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 319 the following new item:

"Sec. 321. Election infrastructure innovation grant program.."

Subtitle B—Security Measures

SEC. 3101. ELECTION INFRASTRUCTURE DESIGNATION.

Subparagraph (j) of section 2001(2) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 601(3)) is amended by inserting "including election infrastructure" before the period at the end.

SEC. 3102. TIMELY THREAT INFORMATION.

Subsection (d) of section 201 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 612) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(2) To provide timely threat information regarding election infrastructure to the chief State election official of the State with respect to which such information pertains."
SEC. 3103. SECURITY CLEARANCE ASSISTANCE FOR ELECTION OFFICIALS.

In order to promote the timely sharing of information on threats to election infrastructure, the Secretary may—

(1) help expedite a security clearance for the chief State election official and other appropriate State personnel involved in the administration of elections, as designated by the chief State election official;

(2) sponsor a security clearance for the chief State election official and other appropriate State personnel involved in the administration of elections, as designated by the chief State election official; and

(3) facilitate the issuance of a temporary clearance to the chief State election official and other appropriate State personnel involved in the administration of elections, as designated by the chief State election official, if the Secretary determines classified information to be timely and relevant to the election infrastructure of the State at issue.

SEC. 3104. SECURITY RISK AND VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENTS.

(a) In General.—Paragraph (6) of section 2209(c) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 659(c)) is amended by inserting “including cybersecurity threats” after “risk management”.

(b) Prioritization of Enhance Election Security Grants.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after receiving a written request from a chief State election official, the Secretary shall, to the extent practicable, commence a security risk and vulnerability assessment (pursuant to paragraph (6) of section 2209(c) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as amended by subsection (a)) on election infrastructure in the State at issue.

(2) NOTIFICATION.—If the Secretary, upon receipt of a request described in paragraph (1), determines that a security risk and vulnerability assessment referred to in such paragraph cannot be commenced within 90 days, the Secretary shall expeditiously notify the chief State election official who submitted such request.

SEC. 3105. ANNUAL REPORTS.

(a) Reports on Assessment and Assessments.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act and annually thereafter through 2028, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees—

(1) efforts to carry out section 3103 during the prior year, including specific information regarding which States were helped, how many officials have been helped in each State, how many requests have been received from each State, and how many temporary clearances have been issued in each State; and

(2) efforts to carry out section 3104 during the prior year, including specific information regarding which States were helped, the dates on which the Secretary received a request for a security risk and vulnerability assessment referred to in such section on which the Secretary commenced each such request, and the dates on which the Secretary transmitted a notification in accordance with subsection (b)(2) of such section.

(b) Reports on Foreign Threats.—Not later than 90 days after the end of each fiscal year (beginning with fiscal year 2021), the Secretary and the Director of National Intelligence, in coordination with the heads of appropriate offices of the Federal Government, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a joint report on foreign threats, including physical and cybersecurity threats, to elections in the United States.

(c) Information From States.—For purposes of preparing the reports required under subsection (a), the Secretary shall solicit and consider information and comments from States and election agencies, except that the provision of such information and comments by a State or election agency shall be voluntary and at the discretion of the State or election agency.

SEC. 3106. PREVENTION OF CYBERSECURITY THREATS TO ELECTIONS.

(a) Submission of Assessment by DNI.—Not later than 180 days before the date of each regularly scheduled general election for Federal office, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit an assessment of the full scope of threats, including cybersecurity threats posed by state actors and terrorist groups, to the election infrastructure of the United States to the Chairman and the permanent chair of the appropriate congressional committees responsible for elected office.

(b) Congressionally Appointed Committees.—

(1) the chief State election official of each State;

(2) the appropriate congressional committees; and

(3) any other relevant congressional committees.

(c) Updates to Initial Assessments.—If, at any time after submitting an assessment with respect to an election under subsection (a), the Director determines that a revision of the assessment is necessary, the Director shall submit a revised assessment under such subsection.

(d) Definitions.—In this section:

(1) The term “Chairman” means the chair of the Election Assistance Commission.

(2) The term “chief State election official” means, with respect to a State, the individual designated by the Secretary of State of the State under section 901 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 21411) as the chief State election official.

(3) The term “voter tabulation” means all paper or electronic materials used by an election official or other person to prepare ballots or count votes.

(e) Implementation.—Not later than 90 days after the issuance of the national strategy required under subsection (a), the President, in consultation with the Secretary, the Chair of the Election Assistance Commission, and the Director of National Intelligence, shall establish a national strategy to protect United States elections, and shall submit a strategy and implementation plan to each congressional committee.

(f) Information from States.—For purposes of preparing the reports required under subsection (a), the Secretary shall solicit and consider information and comments from States and election agencies, except that the provision of such information and comments by a State or election agency shall be voluntary and at the discretion of the State or election agency.

SEC. 3107. NATIONAL COMMISSION TO PROTECT UNITED STATES DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS.

(a) Establishment.—There is established within the legislative branch the National Commission to Protect United States Democratic Institutions (in this section referred to as the “Commission”).

(b) Purpose.—The purpose of the Commission is to enhance protection of United States democratic institutions.

(c) Membership.—The Commission shall be composed of 10 members appointed for the life of the Commission.

SEC. 3107. NATIONAL COMMISSION TO PROTECT UNITED STATES DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS.

(a) Establishment.—There is established within the legislative branch the National Commission to Protect United States Democratic Institutions (in this section referred to as the “Commission”).

(b) Purpose.—The purpose of the Commission is to enhance protection of United States democratic institutions.

(c) Membership.—The Commission shall be composed of 10 members appointed for the life of the Commission.
(A) One member shall be appointed by the Secretary.

(B) One member shall be appointed by the Chairman.

(C) Four members shall be appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, the Chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary, and the Chairman of the Committee on Rules and Administration.

(D) Two members shall be appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, in consultation with the ranking minority member of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, the ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary, and the ranking minority member of the Committee on Rules and Administration.

(E) Three members shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee on Homeland Security, the Chairman of the Committee on House Administration, and the Chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary.

(F) Two members shall be appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives, in consultation with the ranking minority member of the Committee on Homeland Security, the ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary, and the ranking minority member of the Committee on House Administration.

(G) No member appointed by the majority leader of the Senate or the Speaker of the House of Representatives under this section shall act as chairperson of the Commission.

(H) The members of the Commission shall serve without compensation for service on the Commission and shall receive such travel expenses, per diem in lieu of subsistence, and other necessary expenses as are authorized by law for official charges of the United States.

(I) MOBILE DEVICES.—In the provision of Commission services for the purpose of carrying out this section, hold hearings, and sit and act at such times and places, the Commission may carry out any other appropriate activities, including the testing by accredited laboratories of any information technology that is used—

(a) in the provision of services for the Commission, 
(b) in the provision of services for or by the Commission to other Federal agencies, 
(c) in the performance of independent auditing functions by the Commission for or by the Commission to other Federal agencies, 
(d) to otherwise enable the Commission to discharge its duties under this section.

(J) SECURIY CLEARANCES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The heads of appropriate departments and agencies of the executive branch shall provide the Commission with appropriate security clearances to the extent possible under applicable procedures.

(2) PRIVILEGES.—In appointing staff, obtaining detailees, and entering into contracts for the provision of services for the Commission, the Commission shall give preference to individuals who have appropriate security clearances.

(K) REPORTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—At any time prior to the submission of the final report under paragraph (2), the Commission may submit interim reports to the President, the Congress, and the Secretary of Homeland Security.

(2) DEADLINE FOR APPOINTMENT.—All members of the Commission shall be appointed not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(L) VACANCIES.—A vacancy on the Commission shall be filled in the manner in which the original appointment was made. The appointment of the replacement member shall be made not later than 90 days after the date of a vacancy.

(M) CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR.—The Commission shall elect a Chair and Vice Chair from among its members.

(1) Quorum.—The Commission shall meet and begin the operations of the Commission not later than 30 days after the date on which all members have been appointed or, if such meeting cannot be mutually agreed upon, on a date designated by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate. A quorum meeting shall occur upon the call of the Chair or a majority of its members. A majority of the members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum, but a lesser number of members may act on any action required by this section.

(N) AUTHORITY OF INDIVIDUALS TO ACT FOR COMMISSION.—Any member of the Commission may, if authorized by the Commission, take any action that the Commission is authorized to take under this section.

(O) POWERS.—

(1) HEARINGS.—The Commission may, if the Chair or the Secretary or the Commission, as the case may be, designates it, hold hearings in order to carry out its duties and responsibilities.

(2) ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES PRIOR TO TERMINATION.—During the 60-day period referred to in paragraph (1), the Commission may carry out such administrative activities as may be required to conclude the testing activities and disseminate the final report.

(O) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—The Commission may use such funds as are appropriated for the testing by accredited laboratories to carry out its duties and responsibilities.

(P) TESTIMONY.—Not later than 9 months before the date of each regularly scheduled general election for Federal office, the Commission shall provide for the testing by accredited laboratories under this section of the voting system hardware and software which was certified for use in the most recent such election, on the basis of the most recent voting system guidelines applicable to such hardw
substitute (a) shall apply with respect to the regularly scheduled general election for Federal office held in November 2022 and each succeeding regularly scheduled general election for Federal office.“.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents of such Act is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 301 the following new item:

“Sec. 301A. Pre-election reports on voting system usage.”

SEC. 3004. STREAMLINING COLLECTION OF ELECTORAL INFORMATION.

Section 202 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 20902) is amended—

(1) by striking “The Commission” and inserting “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Commission”;

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(b) WAIVER OF CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS.—Subsection 1 I of chapter 52 of title 44, United States Code, shall not apply to the collection of information for purposes of maintaining the clearinghouse described in paragraph (1) of this subsection.”.

Subtitle E—Preventing Election Hacking

SEC. 3401. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the “Prevent Election Hacking Act of 2021”.

SEC. 3402. ELECTION SECURITY BUG BOUNTY PROGRAM.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall establish a program to be known as the “Election Security Bug Bounty Program” (in this subtitle referred to as the “Program”) to improve the cybersecurity of the systems used to administer elections for Federal office by facilitating and encouraging assessments by independent technical experts, in cooperation with State and local election officials and election service providers, to identify and report election cybersecurity vulnerabilities.

(b) VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION BY ELECTION OFFICIALS AND ELECTION SERVICE PROVIDERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Participation in the Program shall be entirely voluntary for State and local election officials and election service providers.

(2) PARTICIPATION AND INPUT FROM ELECTION OFFICIALS.—In developing the Program, the Secretary shall solicit input from, and encourage participation by, State and local election officials.

(c) ACTIVITIES FUNDED.—In establishing and carrying out the Program, the Secretary shall—

(1) establish a process for State and local election officials to nominate election service providers to voluntarily participate in the Program;

(2) designate appropriate information systems to be covered by the Program;

(3) provide compensation to eligible individuals, organizations, and companies for reports of previously unidentified security vulnerabilities within the information systems designated under paragraph (2) and establish criteria for individuals, organizations, and companies to be considered eligible for such compensation in compliance with Federal law;

(4) consult with the Attorney General on how to ensure that approved individuals, organizations, and companies that comply with the requirements of the Program are protected from prosecution under section 1030 of title 18, United States Code, and similar provisions of law, and from liability under civil actions for specific activities authorized under the Program;

(5) consult with the Secretary of Defense and the heads of other departments and agencies that have implemented programs to provide compensation for reports of previously undisclosed vulnerabilities in information systems, regarding lessons that may be applied from such programs; and

(6) establish a program by which an individual, organization, or company can register with the Department, submit to a background check as determined by the Department, and receive a determination regarding eligibility for participation in the Program;

(7) engage qualified interested persons, including representatives of private entities, about the structure of the Program and, to the extent practicable, establish a recurring competition for independent technical experts to assess election systems for the purpose of identifying and reporting election cybersecurity vulnerabilities;

(8) USE OF SERVICE PROVIDERS.—The Secretary may award competitive contracts as necessary to manage the Program.

(b) NO COMPENSATION FOR SERVICE.—Members of the Commission shall not receive any compensation for their service, but shall be paid travel expenses, including subsistence, at rates authorized for employees of agencies under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, while away from their homes or regular places of business in the performance of services for the Commission.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act.

Subtitle G—Miscellaneous Provisions

SEC. 3601. DEFINITIONS.

Except as provided in section 3402, in this title, the following definitions apply:

(1) The term “Chairman” means the chair of the Election Assistance Commission.

(2) The term “appropriate congressional committees” means the Committees on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committees on Homeland Security and the Rules and Administration of the Senate.

(3) The term “chief State election official” means, with respect to a State, the individual designated by the State under section 10 of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20509) to be responsible for coordinating the State’s responsibilities under such Act.

(4) The term “Commission” means the Election Assistance Commission.

(5) The term “democratic institutions” means the diverse range of institutions that are essential to ensuring an independent judiciary, free and fair elections, and rule of law.

(6) The term “election agency” means any component of a State, or any component of a unit of local government in a State, which is responsible for the administration of elections for Federal office in the State.

(7) The term “election infrastructure” means storage facilities, polling places, and centralized voter tabulation locations and devices used to support the administration of elections for public office, as well as related information and communications technology, including voter registration databases, voting machines, and other communications systems (including electronic mail and other systems of vendors who have entered into contracts with election agencies to support the administration of elections, manage the election process, and report and display election results), and other systems used to manage the election process and to report and display election results on behalf of an election agency.

(8) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Homeland Security.
Subtitle B—Use of Voting Machines Manufactured in the United States

SEC. 3701. USE OF VOTING MACHINES MANUFACTURED IN THE UNITED STATES.

(a) REQUIREMENT.—Section 301(a) of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 21081(a)), as amended by section 1504, section 1505, and section 1507, is further amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(10) VOTING MACHINE REQUIREMENTS.—By not later than the date of the regularly scheduled general election for Federal office occurring in November 2024, each State shall seek to ensure that any voting machine used in such election and in any subsequent election for Federal office is manufactured in the United States.",

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT RELATING TO EFFECTIVE DATE.—Section 301(d)(1) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 21081(d)(1)), as amended by section 1508, is amended by striking "paragraph (2)" and inserting "subsection (a)(10) and paragraph (2)".

Subtitle II—Severability

SEC. 3801. SEVERABILITY.

If any provision of this title or amendment made by this title, or the application of a provision or amendment to any person or circumstance, is held to be unconstitutional, the remainder of this title and amendments made by this title, and the application of the provisions and amendment to any person or circumstance, shall not be affected by the holding.

DIVISION B—CAMPAIGN FINANCE

TITLE IV—CAMPAIGN FINANCE TRANSPARENCY

Subtitle A—Establishing Duty To Report Foreign Election Interference

Sec. 4001. Findings relating to illicit money undermining our democracy.

Sec. 4002. Federal campaign reporting of foreign contacts.

Sec. 4003. Federal campaign foreign contact reporting compliance system.

Sec. 4004. Criminal penalties.

Sec. 4005. Report to congressional intelligence committees.

Sec. 4006. Rule of construction.

Subtitle B—DISCLOSE Act

Sec. 4100. Short title.

PART I—CLOSING LOOPHoles ALLOWING SPENDING BY FOREIGN NATIONALS IN ELECTIONS

Sec. 4101. Clarification of prohibition on participation by foreign nationals in election-related activities.

Sec. 4102. Clarification of application of foreign money ban to certain disbursements and activities.

Sec. 4103. Audit and report on illicit foreign money ban.

Sec. 4104. Prohibition on contributions and donations by foreign nationals in connections with ballot initiatives or referenda.

Sec. 4105. Disbursements and activities subject to foreign money ban.

Sec. 4106. Prohibiting establishment of corporate political action committees and donations by foreign nationals.

PART II—REPORTING OF CAMPAIGN-RELATED DISBURSEMENTS

Sec. 4111. Reporting of campaign-related disbursements.

Sec. 4112. Application of foreign money ban to disbursements for campaign-related disbursements consisting of covered transfers.

Sec. 4113. Effective date.

PART III—OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS

Sec. 4121. Petition for certiorari.

Sec. 4122. Judicial review of actions related to campaign finance laws.

Subtitle C—Strengthening Oversight of Online Political Advertising

Sec. 4201. Short title.

Sec. 4202. Purpose.

Sec. 4203. Findings.

Sec. 4204. Sense of Congress.

Sec. 4205. Expansion of definition of public communication.

Sec. 4206. Expansion of definition of electioneering communication.

Sec. 4207. Application of disclaimer statements to online communications.

Sec. 4208. Political record requirements for online platforms.

Sec. 4209. Preventing contributions, expenditures, independent expenditures, and disbursements for electioneering communications by foreign nationals in the form of online and telephone advertisements and campaign advertisement consumption.

Sec. 4210. Independent study on media literacy and online political content consumption.

Sec. 4211. Requiring online platforms to display notices identifying sponsors of political advertisements and to ensure notices continue to be present even if disbursements to online platforms.

Subtitle D—Stand By Every Ad

Sec. 4301. Short title.

Sec. 4302. Stand by every ad.

Sec. 4303. Disclaimer requirements for communications made through prerecorded telephone calls.

Sec. 4304. No expansion of persons subject to disclaimer requirements on intercommunications.

Sec. 4305. Effective date.

Subtitle E—Deterring Foreign Interference in Elections

PART I—DETERRENCE UNDER FEDERAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN ACT OF 1971

Sec. 4401. Restrictions on exchange of campaign funds between candidates and foreign powers.

Sec. 4402. Clarification of standard for determining existence of coordination between campaigns and outside interests.

Sec. 4403. Prohibition on provision of substantial assistance relating to contribution or donation by foreign nationals.

Sec. 4404. Clarification of application of foreign money ban.

PART II—NOTIFYING STATES OF DISINFORMATION CAMPAIGNS BY FOREIGN NATIONALS

Sec. 4411. Notifying States of disinformation campaigns by foreign nationals.

Sec. 4412. Prohibition of use of deepfakes in election campaigns.

Sec. 4413. Prohibition on distribution of materially deceptive audio or visual media prior to election.

PART III—INTERVENTION TO DISCLOSE AND PROHIBIT PROHIBITING USE OF DEEPFAKES IN ELECTION CAMPAIGNS

Sec. 4414. Prohibition on use of deceptively manipulated audio or visual media for political purposes.

PART IV—ASSESSMENT OF EXEMPTION OF REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS UNDER FARA FOR REGISTERED LOBBYISTS

Sec. 4415. Assessment of exemption of registration requirements under FARA for registered lobbyists.

Subtitle F—Secret Money Transparency

Sec. 4501. Repeal of restriction of use of funds by Internal Revenue Service to bring transparency to political activities of certain nonprofit organizations.

Sec. 4502. Repeal of regulations.

Sec. 4503. Governance and operations of corporation comprised of shareholders.

Subtitle H—Disclosure of Political Spending by Government Contractors

Sec. 4701. Repeal of restriction on use of funds to require disclosure of political spending by government contractors.

Subtitle I—Miscellaneous Provisions

Sec. 4901. Effective dates of provisions.

Sec. 4902. Severability.

Subtitle J—Establishing Duty To Report Foreign Election Interference

PART I—FINDINGS RELATING TO ILLICIT MONEY UNDERMINING OUR DEMOCRACY

Congress finds the following:

(1) Criminals, terrorists, and corrupt government officials frequent and anonymously hold Limited Liability Companies (LLCs), also known as "shell companies," to hide, move, and launder the dirty money derived from illicit activities such as trafficking, bribery, exploitation, and embezzlement. Ownership and control of the finances that run through shell companies are obscured to regulators and law enforcement because little information is required and collected when establishing these entities.

(2) The public release of the “Panama Papers” in 2016 and the “Paradise Papers” in 2017 revealed that these shell companies are used to purchase and sell United States real estate. United States anti-money laundering laws do not apply to cash transactions involving real estate effectively enabling the flow of illegal transactions from regulators and law enforcement.

(3) Since the Supreme Court’s decisions in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission, 558 U.S. 310 (2010), millions of dollars have flowed into super PACs through LLCs whose funders are anonymous or intentionally obscured.

(4) Congress should curb the use of anonymous shell companies for illicit purposes by requiring United States companies to disclose their beneficial owners, strengthening anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism finance laws.

(5) Congress should examine the money laundering and terrorist financing risks in the real estate market, including the role of anonymous parties, and review legislation to address any vulnerabilities identified.

(6) Congress should examine the methods by which corruption flourishes and the means to...
detect and deter the financial misconduct that fuels this driver of global instability. Congress should monitor government efforts to enforce United States anti-corruption laws and regulations.

SEC. 4002. FEDERAL CAMPAIGN REPORTING OF FOREIGN CONTACTS.

(a) INITIAL NOTICE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 304 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30104) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(i) DISCLOSURE OF REPORTABLE FOREIGN CONTACTS.—

(1) COMMITTEE OBLIGATION TO NOTIFY.—Not later than 1 week after a reportable foreign contact, each political committee shall notify the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Commission of the reportable foreign contact and provide a summary of the circumstances with respect to such reportable foreign contact. The Federal Bureau of Investigation, not later than 1 week after receiving a notification from a political committee shall notify the treasurer or other designated official of the committee of any reportable foreign contact as defined in section 304(h) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30104) if it later than 3 days after such contact was made.

(2) INDIVIDUAL OBLIGATION TO NOTIFY.—Not later than 3 days after a reportable foreign contact—

(A) each candidate and each immediate family member of a candidate shall notify the treasurer or other designated official of the political committee of such candidate of the reportable foreign contact and provide a summary of the circumstances with respect to such reportable foreign contact; and

(B) each official, employee, or agent of a political committee shall notify the treasurer or other designated official of the committee of the reportable foreign contact and provide a summary of the circumstances with respect to such reportable foreign contact.

"(II) REPORTABLE FOREIGN CONTACT.—In this subsection:

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘reportable foreign contact’ means any direct or indirect contact or communication that—

1. is between—

(I) a candidate, an immediate family member of the candidate, a political committee, or any official, employee, or agent of such committee; and

(ii) an individual who, for personal pecuniary benefit, or for the benefit of a foreign principal, has reason to know, reasonably believes is a covered foreign national; and

2. is a contact described in subsection (i)(I) known, has reason to know, or reasonably believes involves—

(A) an offer or other proposal for a contribution, donation, expenditure, disbursement, or solicitation described in section 319; or

(B) coordination or collaboration with, an offer or provision of information or services to or from, or persistent and repeated contact with, a covered foreign national in violation of an election.

(B) EXCEPTIONS.—

(1) CONTACTS IN OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS ELECTED OFFICIAL.—The term ‘reportable foreign contact’ shall not include any contact or communication with a covered foreign national by an elected official or an employee of an elected official solely in an official capacity as such an official or employee.

(2) EXEMPTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF ENABLING OBSERVATION OF ELECTIONS BY INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS.—The term ‘reportable foreign contact’ shall not include any contact or communication with a covered foreign national by any person which is made for purposes of enabling the observation of elections in the United States by a foreign national or the observation of elections in a foreign country by a candidate, political committee, or any official, employee, or agent of such committee.

(III) EXCEPTIONS NOT APPLICABLE IF CONTACTS OR COMMUNICATIONS INVOLVE PROHIBITED DISBURSEMENTS.—A contact or communication by an elected official or an employee of an elected official is not required to be made solely in an official capacity for purposes of clause (i), and a contact or communication shall not be considered to be made for purposes of enabling the observation of elections by a covered foreign national by any person which is made for purposes of clause (ii), if the contact or communication involves a contribution, donation, expenditure, disbursement, or solicitation described in section 319.

(C) COVERED FOREIGN NATIONAL DEFINED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In this paragraph, the term ‘covered foreign national’ means—

(A) a foreign national described in clause (B) of section 611(b)(1) of the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938 (22 U.S.C. 611(b)(1)) that is a government of a foreign country or a foreign political party; or

(B) any person who acts as an agent, representative, employee, or servant, or any person who acts in any other capacity at the request, order, or under the direction of control, of a foreign principal described in subsection (I) or of a person any of whose activities are directly or indirectly supervised, directed, controlled, financed, managed, or influenced by such foreign principal described in subclause (I);

(II) Clarification regarding application to citizens of the United States.—In the case of a citizen of the United States, subclause (I) of clause (i) applies only to the extent that the person involved acts within the scope of that person’s status as the agent of a foreign principal described in subclause (I).

(III) immediate family member.—In this subsection, the term ‘immediate family member’ means, with respect to a candidate, a parent, parent-in-law, spouse, adult child, or sibling.

(IV) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall apply with respect to reportable foreign contacts which occur on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

(B) INFORMATION INCLUDED ON REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 304(b) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30104(b)) is amended—

(A) by striking ‘‘and’’ at the end of paragraph (7);

(B) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (8) and inserting ‘‘; and’’; and

(C) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

(9) for any reportable foreign contact as defined in subsection (1)(C) —

(A) the date, time, and location of the contact;

(B) the date and time of when a designated official of the committee was notified of the contact;

(C) the identity of individuals involved; and

(D) a description of the nature of any activity described in subsection (A) or (B) of section 304 or section 302(j)."
(2) A description of protocols and procedures developed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation relating to receipt and maintenance of records relating to such notifications.

(3) An analysis of such notifications received during the year covered by the report, a description of any subsequent actions taken by the Director resulting from the receipt of such notifications.

(c) CONGRESSIONAL INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘congressional intelligence committees’ has the meaning given such term in section 3 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003).

SEC. 4006. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this subtitle or the amendments made by this title shall be construed to—

(1) to impair legitimate journalistic activities; or

(2) to impose any additional limitation on the right to express political views or to participate in public discourse of any individual who—

(A) resides in the United States;

(B) is not a citizen of the United States or a national of the United States, as defined in section 101(a)(22) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(22)); and

(C) is not lawfully admitted for permanent residence, as defined by section 101(a)(20) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(20)).

Subtitle B—Disclose Act

SEC. 4100. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the ‘‘Democracy Is Strengthened by Casting Light On Spending in Elections Act of 2021’’ or the ‘‘Disclose Act of 2021.’’

PART I—CLOSING LOOPHOLES ALLOWING SPENDING BY FOREIGN NATIONALS IN ELECTIONS

SEC. 4101. CLARIFICATION OF PROHIBITION ON PAYMENTS TO FOREIGN NATIONALS IN ELECTION-RELATED ACTIVITIES.

(a) CLARIFICATION OF PROHIBITION.—Section 319(a) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30121(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking ‘‘or’’ at the end of paragraph (1);

(2) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (2) and inserting ‘‘; or’’; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

‘‘(3) a foreign national to direct, dictate, control, or directly or indirectly participate in the decision making process of any person (including a corporation, labor organization, political committee, or political organization) with regard to such person’s Federal or non-Federal election-related activity, including any decision concerning the contributions, donations, expenditures, or disbursements in connection with an election for any Federal, State, or local office or any decision concerning the administration of a political committee.’’.

(b) CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE.—Section 319 of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30121) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

‘‘SEC. 4102. CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE PRIOR TO CARRYING OUT ACTIVITY.—Prior to the making in connection with an election for Federal office of any contribution, donation, expenditure, independent expenditure, or disbursement for an electioneering communication by a corporation, labor organization (as defined in section 316(b)), limited liability corporation, or partnership, the chief executive officer of the corporation, limited liability corporation, or partnership (or, if the corporation, labor organization, limited liability corporation, or partnership does not have a chief executive officer, the highest ranking official of the corporation, labor organization, limited liability corporation, or partnership), shall certify in writing to the Commission, under penalty of perjury, that a foreign national did not direct, dictate, control, or directly or indirectly participate in the decision making process relating to such activity in violation of subsection (a)(3), unless the chief executive officer has previously filed such a certification during the preceding calendar year.’’

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect upon the expiration of the 180-day period which begins on the date of its enactment, and shall take effect without regard to whether or not the Federal Election Commission has promulgated regulations to carry out such amendments.

SEC. 4102. CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE PRIOR TO CARRYING OUT ACTIVITY.

(a) APPLICATION TO SUPER PACS AND OTHER PERSONS.—Section 319(a)(1)(A) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30121(a)(1)(A)) is amended by striking the semicolon and inserting the following: ‘‘, including any disbursement to a political committee which accepts donations or contributions that do not comply with any of the limitations, prohibitions, and reporting requirements of this Act (or any disbursement to or on behalf of any account of a political committee which is established for the purpose of accepting or promoting donor contributions), or to any other person for the purpose of funding an expenditure, independent expenditure, or electioneering communication (as defined in section 304(h)(3));’’.

(b) CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH CORPORATE PACS MAY MAKE CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES.—Section 319(b) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30121(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

‘‘(8) a separate segregated fund established by a corporation may not make a contribution or expenditure during the 180-day period which begins on the date of the enactment of this Act, and shall take effect without regard to whether or not the Federal Election Commission has promulgated regulations to carry out such amendments.’’

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to the Federal election cycle that began during November 2020, and each succeeding Federal election cycle.

SEC. 4103. AUDIT AND REPORT ON ILLICIT FOREIGN MONEY.

(a) DISBURSEMENTS DESCRIBED.—Section 316(b) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30116(b)) is amended—

(1) by striking ‘‘or’’ at the end of paragraph (1);

(2) by striking subparagraph (C) and inserting the following:

‘‘(C) in making any disbursement described in subsection (b), a corporation may not make a contribution or expenditure during the 180-day period which begins on the date of the enactment of this Act, and shall take effect without regard to whether or not the Federal Election Commission has promulgated regulations to carry out such amendments.’’.

(b) CONDITIONS.—Section 316(b) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30116(b)) is amended—

(1) by striking ‘‘(b)’’ and inserting ‘‘(c)’’;

(2) by striking subparagraph (C) and inserting the following:

‘‘(C) the fund does not solicit or accept recommendations from any foreign national under section 319 with respect to the contributions or expenditures made by the fund.’’.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to the Federal election cycle that began during November 2020, and each succeeding Federal election cycle.

SEC. 4104. PROHIBITION ON CONTRIBUTIONS AND DONATIONS BY FOREIGN NATIONALS IN CONNECTIONS WITH BALLOT INITIATIVES AND REFERENDA.

(a) DISBURSEMENTS DESCRIBED.—Section 319(a)(1)(A) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30121(a)(1)(A)) is amended—

(1) by striking ‘‘or’’ at the end of subparagraph (B); and

(2) by striking paragraph (C) and inserting the following:

‘‘(C) a disbursement for an electioneering communication (within the meaning of section 304(h)(3));’’.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply with respect to elections held in 2022 or any succeeding year.

SEC. 4105. DISBURSEMENTS AND ACTIVITIES SUBSTANTIALLY AIDING FOREIGN NATIONALS.

(a) DISBURSEMENTS DESCRIBED.—Section 319(a)(1) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30121(a)(1)) is amended—

(1) by striking ‘‘or’’ at the end of paragraph (C); and

(2) by striking subparagraph (D) and inserting the following:

‘‘(D) a disbursement for a broadcast, cable or satellite communication, or for a communication which is placed or promoted for a fee on a website, web application, or digital application, that promotes, supports, or opposes the election of a clearly identified candidate for State or local office, together with recommendations to address these efforts in future elections;’’.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to the Federal election cycle that began during November 2020, and each succeeding Federal election cycle.
online platform (as defined in section 304(k)(3)), that discusses a national legislative issue of public importance in a year in which a regularly scheduled general election for Federal office is held, and in the case of the disbursement is made by a covered foreign national described in section 304(f)(3)(C);”;

“(i) a disbursement by a covered foreign national described in section 304(f)(3)(C) (or, if earlier, the period beginning one year before the disclosure date) and ending on the disclosure date;

“(ii) if the covered organization agreed to follow the prohibition and deposited the payment in an aggregate amount of $10,000 or more during the period beginning on the first day of the election reporting cycle (or, if earlier, the period beginning one year before the disclosure date) and ending on the disclosure date;

“(iii) if any beneficial owner exercises control over the entity through another legal entity, such as a corporation, partnership, limited liability company, or trust, identifies such such other legal entity and each such beneficial owner who will use that other entity to exercise control over the entity; and

“(B) The amount of each campaign-related disbursement made by such organization during the period covered by the statement of more than $1,000, and the name and address of the person to whom the disbursement was made.

“PART 2—REPORTING OF CAMPAIGN-RELATED DISBURSEMENTS

SEC. 4111. REPORTING OF CAMPAIGN-RELATED DISBURSEMENTS.

(a) DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR CORPORATIONS, LABOR ORGANIZATIONS, AND CERTAIN OTHER ENTITIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 324 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30127) is amended to read as follows:

“(a) OFFENSE.—It shall be unlawful for an owner, officer, attorney, or incorporation agent of a corporation, company, or other entity to establish a corporation, company, or other entity with the intent to conceal an activity of a foreign national (as defined in section 319 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30121)) prohibited under such section 319.

“(b) PENALTY.—Any person who violates subsection (a) shall be fined not more than $5,000. Fined under this title, or both..

(b) TABLE OF SECTIONS.—The table of sections for chapter 29 of title 18, United States Code, as amended by section 1071(a) and section 1201(a), is amended by inserting the item relating to section 611 the following:

“§614. Establishment of corporation to conceal election contributions and donations by foreign nationals

“(a) OFFENSE.—It shall be unlawful for an owner, officer, attorney, or incorporation agent of a corporation, company, or other entity to establish a corporation, company, or other entity with the intent to conceal an activity of a foreign national (as defined in section 319 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30121)) prohibited under such section 319.

“(b) PENALTY.—Any person who violates subsection (a) shall be fined not more than $5,000. Fined under this title, or both..

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 324 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30127) is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 324. DISCLOSURE OF CAMPAIGN-RELATED DISBURSEMENTS BY COVERED ORGANIZATIONS.

“(a) DISCLOSURE STATEMENT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Any covered organization that makes a disbursement aggregating more than $10,000 in an election reporting cycle shall, not later than 24 hours after each disclosure date, file a statement with the Commission made under penalty of perjury that contains the information described in paragraph (2)

“(A) in the case of the first statement filed under this subsection, for the period beginning on the first day of the election reporting cycle (or, if earlier, the period beginning one year before the first such disclosure date) and ending on the first such disclosure date;

“(B) in the case of any subsequent statement filed under this subsection, for the period beginning on the previous disclosure date and ending on the last such disclosure date;

“(2) INFORMATION DESCRIBED.—The information described in this paragraph is as follows:

“(A) The name of the covered organization and the principal place of business of such organization and, in the case of a covered organization that is a corporation (other than a business entity that is a federal government depository, as defined in section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78d)) or an entity described in subparagraph (F) of paragraph (2) the ‘base period’ shall be 2022.

“(B) The amount of each campaign-related disbursement made by such organization during the period covered by the statement of any subsequent statement; and

“(C) A certification by the chief executive officer or officer who is the head of the covered organization that the campaign-related disbursement is not made in cooperation, consultation, or coordination with or at the request or suggestion of a candidate, a candidate’s committee, a political party, or agent of a political party.

“(D) The date and amount of each payment made by the covered organization to a covered organization or to a political party for a public communication, the name of any covered organization or a political party to which the campaign-related disbursement pertains and if the disbursement is made to a political party, the name of the political party;

“(E) The name and address of each person who made such payment during the period covered by the statement;

“(F) in the case of any subsequent statement filed under this subsection, for the period beginning on the first day of the election reporting cycle (or, if earlier, the period beginning one year before the disclosure date) and ending on the disclosure date, but only if such payment was made by a person other than the covered organization that controls the account, for each such payment to the account—

“(i) the name and address of each person who made such payment during the period covered by the statement;

“(ii) the date and amount of such payment; and

“(iii) the aggregate amount of all such payments made by the person during the period beginning on the first day of the election reporting cycle (or, if earlier, the period beginning one year before the disclosure date) and ending on the disclosure date;

“(G) The inclusion of the information would subject the covered organization or any intermediary, custodian, or agent on behalf of an entity and whose control over or economic interest in such entity is held, but only if such payment was made by a person other than the covered organization that controls the account, for each such payment to the account—

“(i) the name and address of each person who made such payment during the period covered by the statement;

“(ii) the date and amount of such payment; and

“(iii) the aggregate amount of all such payments made by the person during the period beginning on the first day of the election reporting cycle (or, if earlier, the period beginning one year before the disclosure date) and ending on the disclosure date;
“(A) a disbursement made by a covered organization in a commercial transaction in the ordinary course of a trade or business conducted by the covered organization or in the form of investments made by the covered organization;

(B) a disbursement made by a covered organization if—

(i) the disbursement is not an otherwise prohibited transfer or payment.

(C) the disbursement is a transfer between affiliates under subparagraph (D) or (E);

(D) the disbursement is a transfer between any two organizations which are otherwise related and which meet the requirements of paragraph (1); or

(E) the disbursement is a transfer which is made to a candidate for Federal office or to any political party, political committee, or political action committee.

(2) EXCLUSIONS.—The term ‘covered transfer’ does not include any of the following:

(A) A transfer of funds from a covered organization to that same covered organization which is treated as a transfer between affiliates if the funds are used for—

(i) salaries of salaried paid staff members of the covered organization or of an affiliate; or

(ii) other purposes of subparagraph (A) to the extent that the covered organization is required to be bound by decisions of the governing board, officers, or representatives of the covered organization or of an affiliate.

(B) A disbursement made by a covered organization to another covered organization or to any political party, political committee, or political action committee.

(C) A disbursement made by a covered organization to another covered organization or to any political party, political committee, or political action committee if—

(i) the covered organization prohibited, in writing, the use of such disbursement for campaign-related disbursements; and

(ii) the recipient of such disbursement agreed to follow the prohibition and deposit the disbursement in an account which is segregated from any account used to make campaign-related disbursements.

(D) SPECIAL RULE REGARDING TRANSFERS AMONG AFFILIATES.—In determining the amount of a transfer between affiliates for purposes of subparagraph (A), to the extent that the transfer consists of funds attributable to dues, fees, or assessments which are paid by individuals on a regular, periodic basis and which do not comply with the contribution limits or source prohibitions under this Act, but only with respect to such accounts.

(E) COVERED ORGANIZATION DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘covered organization’ means any of the following:

(1) A corporation (other than an organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) if—

(i) the amount of $50,000 or more during the 2-year period beginning on the date of the transfer or payment.

(2) EXCLUSIONS.—The term ‘covered transfer’ does not include any of the following:

(A) A transfer of funds from a covered organization to that same covered organization which is treated as a transfer between affiliates if one of the organizations is an affiliate of the other organization; or

(B) A disbursement made by a covered organization to another covered organization or to any political party, political committee, or political action committee if—

(i) the covered organization prohibited, in writing, the use of such disbursement for campaign-related disbursements; and

(ii) the recipient of such disbursement agreed to follow the prohibition and deposit the disbursement in an account which is segregated from any account used to make campaign-related disbursements.

(C) SPECIAL RULE FOR PROHIBITED TRANSFERS BETWEEN AFFILIATES.—A transfer of amounts from one covered organization to another covered organization shall be treated as a transfer between affiliates if—

(i) the covering instrument of the organization requires it to be bound by decisions of the governing board of the same organization; or

(ii) the governing board of the organization includes persons who are specifically designated representatives of the other organization or are members of the governing board of the other organization, or are paid executive staff members of the other organization, or whose service on the governing board is contingent upon the approval of the other organization; or

(iii) the organization is not an affiliate of the other organization.

(3) SPECIAL RULE.—A transfer of an amount by one covered organization to another covered organization which is treated as a transfer between affiliates shall be considered a covered transfer by the covered organization which transfers the amount only if the aggregate amount transferred during the year which covered organization equals or greater than $50,000.

(D) DETERMINATION OF AMOUNT OF CERTAIN TRANSFERS AMONG AFFILIATES.—In determining the amount of a transfer between affiliates for purposes of subparagraph (A), to the extent that the transfer consists of funds attributable to dues, fees, or assessments which are paid by individuals on a regular, periodic basis in accordance with a per-individual calculation which is not based on the basic transfer shall be attributed to the individual, the basic transfer shall not be attributed to the covered organization.

(3) SPECIAL RULE REGARDING TRANSFERS AMONG AFFILIATES.—A transfer of amounts from one covered organization to another covered organization shall be treated as a transfer between affiliates if—

(i) the governing instrument of the organization requires it to be bound by decisions of the other organization; or

(ii) the governing board of the organization includes persons who are specifically designated representatives of the other organization or are members of the governing board of the other organization, or are paid executive staff members of the other organization, or whose service on the governing board is contingent upon the approval of the other organization; or

(iii) the organization is not an affiliate of the other organization.

(E) COVERED TRANSFERS TO AFFILIATED SECTION 501(c)(3) ORGANIZATIONS.—This paragraph shall apply with respect to an amount transferred by a covered organization to an organization described in paragraph (3) of section 501(c)(3) of such Code in the same manner as this paragraph applies to an amount transferred by a covered organization to another covered organization in an aggregate amount during the 2-year period ending on the date of the transfer or payment.

(F) NO EFFECT ON OTHER REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Nothing in this section shall be
construed to waive or otherwise affect any other requirement of this Act which relates to the reporting of campaign-related disbursements.”.

(2) **CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—**Section 309(b)(6) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30109(b)(6)) is amended by inserting “Any requirement” and inserting “Except as provided in section 324(b), any requirement”.

(b) **COORDINATION WITH FINCEN.—**

(1) **IN GENERAL.—**The Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network of the Department of the Treasury shall provide the Federal Election Commission with such information as necessary to assist in administering and enforcing section 324 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended by this section.

(2) **REPORT.—**Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Chairman of the Federal Election Commission, in consultation with the Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network of the Department of the Treasury, shall submit to Congress a report for providing further legislative authority to assist in the administration and enforcement of such section 324.

**SEC. 4112. APPLICATION OF FOREIGN MONEY BAN TO DISBURSEMENTS FOR CAMPAIGN RELATED DISBURSEMENTS CONSISTING OF COVERED TRANSFERS.**

Section 319(a)(1)(A) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30122(a)(1)(A)), as amended by section 4102, is amended by striking the semicolon at the end and inserting the following: “, and any disbursement, other than an expenditure described in section 324(a)(3)(A), to another person who made a campaign-related disbursement consisting of a covered transfer (as described in section 324) during the 2-year period ending on the date of the disbursement.”.

**SEC. 4113. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

The amendments made by this part shall apply with respect to disbursements made on or after August 16, 2021, and shall take effect as provided in subsection (a) of section 324 prior to the date of the enactment of this Act.

**PART III—OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS**

**SEC. 4121. PETITION FOR CERTIORARI.**

Section 307(a)(6) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30147(a)(6)) is amended by inserting “including a complaint filed before the Supreme Court on certiorari” after “appeal”.

**SEC. 4122. JUDICIAL REVIEW OF ACTIONS RELATING TO DISBURSEMENTS FOR CAMPAIGN-RELATED DISBURSEMENTS CONSISTING OF COVERED TRANSFERS.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.—**Title IV of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30141) et seq. is amended by inserting after section 406 the following new section:

> **SEC. 407. JUDICIAL REVIEW.**

> “For provisions relating to judicial review of certifications, determinations, and actions by the Commission under this chapter, see section 407 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971.”.

(b) **CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—**

(1) Section 901 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended to read as follows:

> **SEC. 9011. JUDICIAL REVIEW.**

> “For provisions relating to judicial review of certifications, determinations, and actions by the Commission under this chapter, see section 407 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971.”.

(2) Section 901 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended to read as follows:

> **SEC. 901A. JUDICIAL REVIEW.**

> “For provisions relating to judicial review of actions by the Commission under this chapter, see section 407 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971.”.

(3) Section 310 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30110) is repealed.

(4) Section 403 of the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 30110 note) is repealed.

> **(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—**The amendments made by this section shall apply to actions brought on or after January 1, 2021.

**Subtitle C—Strengthening Oversight of Online Political Advertising**

**SEC. 4201. SHORT TITLE.**

This subtitle may be cited as the “Honest Ads Act”.

**SEC. 4202. PURPOSE.**

The purpose of this subtitle is to enhance the integrity of American democracy and national security by improving disclosure requirements for online political advertisements in order to uphold the Supreme Court’s well-established standard that the electorate bears the right to be fully informed.

**SEC. 4203. FINDINGS.**

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) On January 6, 2017, the Office of the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation published a report titled “Assessing Russian Activities and Intentions in Recent U.S. Elections”, noting that “Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered an influence campaign in 2016 aimed at the US presidential election * * *”. Moscow’s influence campaign followed a Russian messaging strategy that extends covert influence—such as cyber activity—with overt efforts by Russian Government agencies, state-funded media, third-party intermediaries, and paid social media users or “bots”.

(2) On November 24, 2016, The Washington Post reported findings from 2 teams of independent researchers that concluded Russians used American-made media technology platforms to attack U.S. democracy at a particularly vulnerable moment * * * as part of a broadly effective strategy of sowing distrust in U.S. democracy and its leaders.

(3) Findings from a 2017 study on the manipulation of public opinion through social media conducted by the Computational Propaganda Research Project at the Oxford Internet Institute found that the Kremlin is using pro-Russian bots to manipulate public discourse to a highly targeted audience. With a sample of nearly 1,300,000 tweets, researchers found that in the 2016 election’s decisive States, propaganda constituted 40 percent of the sampled election-related tweets that went to Pennsylvannia, Wisconsin, and Michigan, with 20 percent and 30 percent to those in Wisconsin. In other swing States, the figure reached 42 percent in Missouri, 41 percent in Florida, 40 percent in North Carolina, 38 percent in Colorado, and 35 percent in Ohio.

(4) On September 6, 2017, The Nation’s largest social media platform disclosed that between June 2016 and May 2017, Russian entities purchased $100,000 in political advertisements, publishing roughly 30,000 ads linked to fake accounts associated with the Internet Research Agency, a pro-Kremlin organization. According to the company, the ads purchased focused “on amplifying divisive social and political messages * * *”.

(5) In 2002, the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act became law, establishing disclosure requirements for political advertisements distributed from a television or radio broadcast station or provider of cable or satellite television. In 2003, the Supreme Court upheld regulations on electioneering communications established under the Act, noting that such requirements “provide the electorate with information that the voters are fully informed about the person or group who is speaking.”.

(6) According to a study from Borrell Associates in 2016, $4,145,000,000 was spent on online advertising, more than quadruple the amount in 2012.

(7) The reach of a few large internet platforms far exceeds that of any newspaper, radio, or television advertiser, or any cable provider—has greatly facilitated the scale and effectiveness of disinformation campaigns. For instance, the largest platform has over 1,500,000,000 users—over 100,000,000 of them on a daily basis. By contrast, the largest cable television provider has 22,439,000 subscribers, while the largest satellite television provider has 21,000,000 users and the most-watched television broadcast in United States history had 118,000,000 viewers.

(8) The public nature of broadcast television, radio, and satellite ensures a level of publicity for any political advertisement. These communications are accessible to the press, fact-checkers, and political opponents; this creates strong disincentives for a candidate to disseminate materially false, inflammatory, or contradictory messages to the public. Social media platforms, in contrast, can target portions of the electorate with ephemeral, time-sensitive advertisements based on the basis of private information the platform has on individuals, enabling political advertisements that are contradictory, racially or socially inflammatory, or materially false.
as of June 2017, including the most popular social media and email services—which deliver information and news to users without requiring proactivity by the user. Those same 2 companies accounted for 99 percent of revenue growth from digital advertising in 2016, including 77 percent of gross spending, 79 percent of online Americans—representing 68 percent of all Americans—use social media platforms that include paid digital campaigns, while 66 percent of these users are most likely to get their news from that site.

(10) In its 2018 report, the Federal Election Commission noted that only 18 percent of all Americans cited the internet as their leading source of news about the 2014 Presidential election. Pew Research Center found that 65 percent of Americans identified an internet-based source as their leading source of information for the 2016 election.

(11) The Federal Election Commission, the independent Federal agency charged with protecting the integrity of the Federal election finance process by providing transparency and administering campaign finance laws, has failed to take action to address online political advertisements.

(12) In testimony before the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence titled, “Disinformation: A Primer in Russian Active Measures and Influence Campaigns”, multiple expert witnesses testified that while the disinformation of foreign sources have not necessarily changed, social media services now provide “platform[s] practically purpose-built for active measures.” Similarly, as Gen. Michael Hayden, former chief of the National Security Agency, testified, during the Cold War “if the Soviet Union sought to manipulate information flow, it would have to do so through its own propaganda outlets or through active measures that would generate specific news: planting of leaflets, inciting of violence, creation of other false narratives. But the news itself did not change.”

(13) Current regulations on political advertisements do not provide sufficient transparency to uphold the trust of the American public and provide a framework for addressing political advertisements made online.

SEC. 4204. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

(a) In general.—(1) the dramatic increase in digital political advertisements, and the growing centrality of online platforms in the lives of Americans, requires the Congress and the Federal Election Commission to take meaningful action to ensure that laws and regulations provide the accountability and transparency that is fundamental to our democracy;

(b) Treatment of contributions and expenditures.—Section 301 of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30101) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (b)(4), by striking “on broadcasting stations, newspapers, magazines, or similar types of general public political advertising” and inserting “in any public communication”;

(2) in paragraph (9)(B)—

(A) by amending clause (i) to read as follows: “(i) any news story, commentary, or editorial distributed through any broadcasting station or any print, online, or digital newspaper, magazine, blog, publication, or periodical, unless such broadcasting, print, online, or digital publication is owned or controlled by any political party, political committee, or candidate;” and

(B) in clause (iv), by striking “on broadcasting stations, newspapers, magazines, or similar types of general public political advertising” and inserting “in any public communication”;

(c) Disclosure and disclaimer statement.—Subsection (a) of section 318 of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30120) is amended—

(1) by striking “financing any communication through any broadcasting station, newspaper, magazine, outdoor advertising facility, mailing, or any other type of general public political advertising” and inserting “financing any public communication”;

(2) by striking “solicits any contribution through any broadcasting station, newspaper, magazine, outdoor advertising facility, mailing, or any other type of general public political advertising” and inserting “solicits any contribution through any public communication”;

(d) Qualified internet or digital communications.—Section 4206. EXPANSION OF DEFINITION OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION.

(a) Expansion to online communications.—(1) Application to qualified internet and digital communications.—

(A) In General.—Subparagraph (A) of section 304(f)(3) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30104(f)(3)(A)) is amended by adding “satellite, or qualified internet or digital communication” after “any public communication”;

(B) Qualified internet or digital communication.—Paragraph (3) of section 304(f) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30104(f)) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

1. In the case of a text or graphic communication, the statement is splicable in a clear and conspicuous manner if it is difficult to read or hear or if the placement is easily overlooked.

2. In the case of a video communication, which also includes audio, the statement—

(i) appears in letters at least as large as the minimum of the text in the communication; and

(ii) is made both in—

(A) a written format that meets the requirements of subparagraph (A) and appears for at least 3 seconds; and

(B) an audible format that meets the requirements of subparagraph (B).

3. Other communications.—In the case of any other type of communication, the statement is stated in a clear and conspicuous manner as the statement specified in subsection (A), (B), or (C) as appropriate.

(b) Nonapplication of certain exceptions.—The exceptions provided in section 301B.11(f)(1)(i) and (ii) of title 11, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor to such rules, shall not apply to the qualified internet or digital communications (as defined in section 304(f)(3)(D)) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971.

(c) Modification of additional requirements for certain communications.—Section 318(b) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30120(d)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)(A)—

(A) by striking “which is transmitted through radio” and inserting “which is in an audio format” and

(B) by striking “BY RADIO” in the heading and inserting “AUDIO FORMAT”;

(2) in paragraph (1)(B)—

(A) by striking “which is transmitted through television” and inserting “which is in video format” and
“(B) communicates a message relating to any political matter of national importance, including—

(i) a candidate;

(ii) any expenditure relating to Federal office; or

(iii) a national legislative issue of public importance.

(5) TIME TO MAINTAIN FILE.—The information required under this section shall be made available as soon as possible and shall be retained by the online platform for a period of not less than 4 years.

(6) SAFE HARBOR FOR PLATFORMS MAKING BEST EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY REQUESTS WHICH ARE SUBJECT TO RECORD MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS.—For purposes of paragraph (5)(B), if an online platform shows that the platform used best efforts to determine whether or not a request to purchase a qualified political advertisement was subject to the requirements of this subsection, the online platform shall not be considered to be in violation of such requirements.

(7) PENALTIES.—For penalties for failure by online platforms, and persons requesting to purchase a qualified political advertisement on online platforms, to comply with the requirements of this subsection, the Federal Election Commission shall establish rules—

(A) requiring common data formats for the record required to be maintained under section 304(k) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (as added by section 4002), so that all online platforms submit and maintain data online in a common, machine-readable and publicly accessible format;

(B) establishing search interface requirements relating to such record, including searches by candidate name, issue, purchaser, and date; and

(C) establishing the criteria for the safe harbor exception provided under paragraph (6) of section 304(k) of such Act (as added by subsection (a)).

(8) REPORTING.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Federal Election Commission shall submit a report to Congress containing—

(A) matters relating to compliance with and the enforcement of the requirements of section 304(k) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as added by subsection (a); and

(B) recommendations for any modifications to such requirements.

(9) IMPLEMENTATION OF CONSUMER RIGHTS.—The Federal Election Commission shall establish rules—

(A) requiring common data formats for the record required to be maintained under section 304(k) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, so that all online platforms submit and maintain data online in a common, machine-readable and publicly accessible format;

(B) establishing search interface requirements relating to such record, including searches by candidate name, issue, purchaser, and date; and

(C) establishing the criteria for the safe harbor exception provided under paragraph (6) of section 304(k) of such Act (as added by subsection (a)).

(10) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Federal Election Commission shall establish rules requiring common data formats for the record required to be maintained under section 304(k) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, so that all online platforms submit and maintain data online in a common, machine-readable and publicly accessible format; and establishing search interface requirements relating to such record, including searches by candidate name, issue, purchaser, and date; and establishing the criteria for the safe harbor exception provided under paragraph (6) of section 304(k) of such Act (as added by subsection (a)).

(11) REPORTING.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Federal Election Commission shall submit a report to Congress containing—

(A) matters relating to compliance with and the enforcement of the requirements of section 304(k) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as added by subsection (a); and

(B) recommendations for any modifications to such requirements.

(12) IMPLEMENTATION OF CONSUMER RIGHTS.—The Federal Election Commission shall establish rules—

(A) requiring common data formats for the record required to be maintained under section 304(k) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, so that all online platforms submit and maintain data online in a common, machine-readable and publicly accessible format;

(B) establishing search interface requirements relating to such record, including searches by candidate name, issue, purchaser, and date; and

(C) establishing the criteria for the safe harbor exception provided under paragraph (6) of section 304(k) of such Act (as added by subsection (a)).

(13) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 120 days after receiving the report under subsection (c), the Commission shall submit the report to the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate, together with such comments on the report as the Commission considers appropriate.

(14) DEFINITION OF MEDIA LITERACY.—The term ‘media literacy’ means the ability to—

(A) access relevant and accurate information through media;

(B) critically analyze media content and the influences of media;

(C) evaluate the comprehensiveness, relevance, credibility, authority, and accuracy of information;

(D) critically analyze media content and the influences of media;

(E) make educated decisions based on informed analysis of media content;

(F) operate various forms of technology and digital tools; and

(G) critically analyze media content and the influences of media.

(15) REQUIREMENTS FOR ONLINE PLATFORMS TO DISPLAY NOTICES IDENTIFYING SPONSORS AND ADVERTISERS.—Each online platform from which a qualified political advertisement is displayed shall be required to display a notice identifying the sponsors and advertisers of each qualified political advertisement.

3. Borrowing powers.—The Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30121), as amended by section 4002 and section 4208(a), is amended by adding at the end of the following new subsection:
(1) Ensuring display and sharing of sponsor identification in online political advertisements.—

(1) Requirement.—An online platform displaying a qualified political advertisement shall—

(A) display with the advertisement a visible notice identifying the sponsor of the advertisement or indicating for the communication by requiring a disproportionate amount of the content of the communication to consist of the Top Five Funders list, the name of a website which contains the Top Two Funders list, or the Top Twenty Funders list;

(B) if the communication is transmitted in a video format, the information required under paragraph (1)(c) shall be made by audio by the applicable individual in a clear and conspicuous manner;

(C) if the communication is transmitted in a text or graphic format, the information required under paragraph (1)(c) shall appear in writing at the end of the communication or in a crawl along the bottom of the communication in a clear and conspicuous manner, with a reasonable degree of contrast between the background and the printed text, for a period of at least 6 seconds; and

(ii) shall also be conveyed by an unobscured, full-color photograph of the applicable individual or by the applicable individual making the statement in voice-over accompanied by a clearly identifiable photograph or similar image of the individual, except in the case of a Top Five Funders list.

(4) Applicable individual defined.—The term ‘applicable individual’, with respect to a communication to which this subsection applies—

(A) if the communication is paid for by an individual, the individual involved;

(B) if the communication is paid for by a labor organization, the highest ranking officer of the labor organization;

(C) if the communication is paid for by a corporation, the highest ranking officer of the corporation; and

(D) if the communication is paid for by any other person, the highest ranking official of such person.

(5) Top Five Funders list and Top Two Funders list defined.—

(A) Top Five Funders list.—The term ‘Top Five Funders list’ means, with respect to a communication to which this subsection applies in part with a campaign-related disbursement, a list of the top five persons who, during the 12-month period ending on the date of the disbursement, provided the largest payments of any type in an aggregate amount equal to or exceeding $10,000 to the person who provided the disbursement, provided the aggregate amount of the payments each such person provided. If two or more people provided the fifth largest of such payments, the person paying for the communication shall select one of those persons to be included on the Top Five Funders list.

(B) Top Two Funders list.—The term ‘Top Two Funders list’ means, with respect to a communication which is paid for in whole or in part with a campaign-related disbursement (as defined in section 324), a list of the persons who, during the 12-month period ending on the date of the disbursement, provided the largest and the second largest payments of any type in an aggregate amount equal to or exceeding $10,000 to the person who is paying for the communication and the amount of the payments each such person provided. If two or more persons provided the second largest of such payments, the person paying for the communication shall select one of those persons to be included on the Top Two Funders list.

(2) Disclosure statement described.—The individual disclosure statement described in this subparagraph is the following: ‘I am the individual who approved this message,’ with the blank filled in with the name of the applicable individual.

(2) DisclosuresStatements described.—The organizational disclosure statement described in this subparagraph is the following: ‘I am the name of the applicable individual, the individual involved;’ with the blank filled in with the name of the applicable individual.

(2) Effective date.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to advertisements displayed on or after the 129-day period which begins on the date of the enactment of this Act.

Subtitle D—Stand By Every Ad

SEC. 4301. SHORT TITLE

This subtitle may be cited as the ‘‘Stand By Every Ad’’ Act.

SEC. 4302. STAND BY EVERY AD

(a) Expanded disclaimer requirements for certain communications.—Section 318 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30120), as amended by section 4207(c)(1), is further amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (e) as subsection (f); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (d) the following new subsection:

(e) Expanded disclaimer requirements for communications not authorized by candidates or committees.—

(1) in General.—Except as provided in paragraph (6), any communication described in paragraph (3) of subsection (a) which is transmitted in an audio or video format (including an Internet or digital communication), or which is an Internet or digital communication transmitted in a text or graphic format, shall include, in addition to the requirements of paragraph (3) of subsection (a), the following:

(A) The individual disclosure statement described in paragraph (2)(A) (if the person paying for the communication is an individual) or the organizational disclosure statement described in paragraph (2)(A) (if the person paying for the communication is an individual) and the amount of the payments each such person provided the second largest of such payments, the person paying for the communication shall select one of those persons to be included on the Top Five Funders list.

(B) Communications transmitted in video format.—In the case of a communication to which this subsection applies which is transmitted in a video format, the information required under paragraph (1)(c) shall be made by audio by the applicable individual in a clear and conspicuous manner.

(C) Communications transmitted in video format.—In the case of a communication to which this subsection applies which is transmitted in a video format, the information required under paragraph (1)(c) shall be made by audio by the applicable individual in a clear and conspicuous manner.

(ii) any amount provided in the ordinary course of any trade or business conducted by the person paying for the communication or in the ordinary course of any trade or business conducted by the person paying for the communication.

(iii) any amount provided in the ordinary course of any trade or business conducted by another person paying for the communication.

(iv) any amount provided in the ordinary course of any trade or business conducted by another person paying for the communication.

(v) any amount provided in the ordinary course of any trade or business conducted by another person paying for the communication.

(vi) any amount provided in the ordinary course of any trade or business conducted by another person paying for the communication.

(2) Disclosures statements described.—The individual disclosure statement described in this subparagraph is the following: ‘I am the individual who approved this message,’ with the blank filled in with the name of the applicable individual.

(ii) any amount provided in the ordinary course of any trade or business conducted by the person paying for the communication or in the ordinary course of any trade or business conducted by the person paying for the communication.

(iii) any amount provided in the ordinary course of any trade or business conducted by another person paying for the communication.

(iv) any amount provided in the ordinary course of any trade or business conducted by another person paying for the communication.

(v) any amount provided in the ordinary course of any trade or business conducted by another person paying for the communication.

(vi) any amount provided in the ordinary course of any trade or business conducted by another person paying for the communication.

(2) Method of conveyance of statement.—

(A) Communications in text or graphic format.—In the case of a communication to which this subsection applies which is transmitted in a text or graphic format, the disclosure statement required by paragraph (1) shall appear in letters at least as large as the majority of the text in the communication.

(B) Communications transmitted in audio format.—In the case of a communication to which this subsection applies which is transmitted in an audio format, the disclosure statement required by paragraph (1) shall be made by audio by the applicable individual in a clear and conspicuous manner.

(C) Communications transmitted in video format.—In the case of a communication to which this subsection applies which is transmitted in a video format, the information required under paragraph (1)(c) shall appear in writing at the end of the communication or in a crawl along the bottom of the communication in a clear and conspicuous manner, with a reasonable degree of contrast between the background and the printed text, for a period of at least 6 seconds; and

(ii) any amount provided in the ordinary course of any trade or business conducted by another person paying for the communication.

(iii) any amount provided in the ordinary course of any trade or business conducted by another person paying for the communication.

(iv) any amount provided in the ordinary course of any trade or business conducted by another person paying for the communication.

(v) any amount provided in the ordinary course of any trade or business conducted by another person paying for the communication.

(vi) any amount provided in the ordinary course of any trade or business conducted by another person paying for the communication.

(3) Exclusion of certain payments.—For purposes of subparagraphs (A) and (B), in determining the amount of payments made by a person to a person paying for a communication, the person paying for the communication shall also include all payments made by any other person paying for the communication to the person paying for the communication.

(i) Any payment which the person prohibited, in writing, from being used for campaign-related disbursements, but only if the person paying for the communication agreed to follow the prohibition and deposited the payment in an account which is segregated from any account used for other campaign-related disbursements.

(4) Special rules for certain communications.—

(a) Exception for communications paid for by political parties and certain political committees.—This subsection does not apply to any communication to which subsection (3) applies.

(b) Treatment of video communications lasting 10 seconds or less.—In the case of a communication to which this subsection applies which is transmitted in an audio visual format which is an Internet or digital communication which is transmitted in a text or graphic format, the communication shall meet the following requirements:

(i) The communication shall include the individual disclosure statement described in paragraph (2)(A) (if the person paying for the communication is an individual) or the organizational disclosure statement described in paragraph (2)(B) (if the person paying for the communication is not an individual).

(ii) The statement required in clause (i) shall appear in writing at the end of the communication, or in a crawl along the bottom of the communication, in a clear and conspicuous manner, with a reasonable degree of contrast between the background and the printed statement, for a period of at least 4 seconds.

(iii) The communication shall include, in a clear and conspicuous manner, a website address with a landing page which will provide all of the information described in paragraph (1)(a) with respect to the communication. Such address shall appear for the full duration of the communication.

(iv) To the extent that the format in which the communication is presented is such that a hyperlink, the communication shall include a hyperlink to the website address described in clause (iii).

(v) The 12-month period for the expiration of the requirements to public communications consisting of campaign-related disbursements—
(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 318(a) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30120(a)) is amended by striking “for the purpose of financing communications expressly advocating the election or defeat of a clearly identified candidate, or an independent expenditure, of a clearly identified committee” and inserting “for a campaign-related disbursement, as defined in section 324, consisting of a public communication.”

(2) CLARIFICATION OF EXEMPTION FROM INCLUSION OF CANDIDATE DISCLAIMER STATEMENT IN FEDERAL JUDICIAL NOMINATION COMMUNICATIONS.—Section 318(a)(5) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30120(a)(5)) is amended by striking “shall state” and inserting “shall (except in the case of a Federal judicial nomination communication, as defined in section 324(d)(2)) state”.

(3) RECONCILIATION OF DISCLAIMER REQUIREMENTS PAID FOR BY POLITICAL PARTIES AND CERTAIN POLITICAL COMMITTEES.—Section 318(d)(2) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30120(d)(2)) is amended—

(1) in the heading, by striking “OTHERS” and inserting “CERTAIN POLITICAL COMMITTEES”;

(2) by striking “Any communication” and inserting “(A) Any communication”;

(3) by inserting “which (except to the extent provided in subparagraph (B)) is paid for by a political party (excluding a party committee) for a political party (excluding a party committee)” after “shall have been made” and before “in compliance with the requirements of such paragraph”;

(4) by striking “or other person” each place it appears and inserting “party” before “shall have been made”;

(5) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(B) PRERECORDED TELEPHONE CALLS.—In the case of a communication to which this subsection applies which is a telephone call consisting in substantial part of a prerecorded audio message, the communication shall be considered to be transmitted in an audio format.”.

SEC. 4304. NO EXPANSION OF PERSONS SUBJECT TO DISCLAIMER REQUIREMENTS ON INTERNET COMMUNICATIONS.

Nothing in this subtitle or the amendments made by this subtitle may be construed to require any person who is not required under section 318 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to include a disclaimer on communications made by the person through the internet to include any disclaimer on any such communications.

SEC. 4805. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The amendments made by this subtitle shall apply with respect to communications made on or after January 1, 2022, and shall take effect without regard to whether or not the Federal Election Commission has promulgated regulations to carry out such amendments.

Subtitle E—Deterring Foreign Interference in Elections

PART I—DETERRENCE UNDER FEDERAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN ACT OF 1971

SEC. 4401. RESTRICTIONS ON EXCHANGE OF CAMPAIGN INFORMATION BETWEEN CANIDATES AND FOREIGN POWERS.

Section 319 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30121), as amended by section 4101(b), section 4102(b), section 4209, and section 4401, is further amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking “or” at the end of paragraph (2);

(B) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (2) and, in subsection (b), in paragraph (1), by inserting “,” before “in addition to”;

(C) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

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(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(B) The term ‘covered foreign national’ includes—

(B)(i) a person who is not a national of the United States or a person who is neither a national of the United States nor a national of a foreign national who is not a national of the United States,

(B)(ii) an organization, whether or not a political organization, and any employee of such an organization, who, together with such organization, owns or controls 5 percent or more of the outstanding voting stock of any foreign national, or who is a principal owner or principal shareholder of any foreign national.

(B)(iii) an organization, whether or not a political organization, and any employee of such an organization, who is an authorized representative of a foreign national or whose principal purpose is to influence the election or appointment of an individual for public office on behalf of a foreign national.

(B)(iv) an organization, whether or not a political organization, and any employee of such an organization, who, together with such organization, owns or controls 5 percent or more of the outstanding voting stock of any foreign national, or who is a principal owner or principal shareholder of any foreign national, or who is an authorized representative of a foreign national or whose principal purpose is to influence the election or appointment of an individual for public office on behalf of a foreign national.

(C) The term ‘campaign information’ includes—

(C)(i) any information that is not otherwise publicly available or that is not otherwise publicly disseminated,

(C)(ii) any information that is in the possession of a covered foreign national, or any employee of a covered foreign national, or any organization, whether or not a political organization, and any employee of such an organization, who, together with such organization, owns or controls 5 percent or more of the outstanding voting stock of any foreign national, or who is a principal owner or principal shareholder of any foreign national, or who is an authorized representative of a foreign national or whose principal purpose is to influence the election or appointment of an individual for public office on behalf of a foreign national;

(C)(iii) any information that is in the possession of a covered foreign national, or any employee of a covered foreign national, or any organization, whether or not a political organization, and any employee of such an organization, who, together with such organization, owns or controls 5 percent or more of the outstanding voting stock of any foreign national, or who is a principal owner or principal shareholder of any foreign national, or who is an authorized representative of a foreign national or whose principal purpose is to influence the election or appointment of an individual for public office on behalf of a foreign national;

(C)(iv) any information that is in the possession of a covered foreign national, or any employee of a covered foreign national, or any organization, whether or not a political organization, and any employee of such an organization, who, together with such organization, owns or controls 5 percent or more of the outstanding voting stock of any foreign national, or who is a principal owner or principal shareholder of any foreign national, or who is an authorized representative of a foreign national or whose principal purpose is to influence the election or appointment of an individual for public office on behalf of a foreign national;

(C)(v) any information that is in the possession of a covered foreign national, or any employee of a covered foreign national, or any organization, whether or not a political organization, and any employee of such an organization, who, together with such organization, owns or controls 5 percent or more of the outstanding voting stock of any foreign national, or who is a principal owner or principal shareholder of any foreign national, or who is an authorized representative of a foreign national or whose principal purpose is to influence the election or appointment of an individual for public office on behalf of a foreign national;

(C)(vi) any information that is in the possession of a covered foreign national, or any employee of a covered foreign national, or any organization, whether or not a political organization, and any employee of such an organization, who, together with such organization, owns or controls 5 percent or more of the outstanding voting stock of any foreign national, or who is a principal owner or principal shareholder of any foreign national, or who is an authorized representative of a foreign national or whose principal purpose is to influence the election or appointment of an individual for public office on behalf of a foreign national.
from whom the contribution or donation is solicited, accepted, or received, or that the person dictating, directing, controlling, or directly or indirectly participating in the decisionmaking process:

“(A) uses a foreign passport or passport number for identification purposes; “(B) provides a foreign address; “(C) directs or otherwise written instrument drawn on a foreign bank, or by a wire transfer from a foreign bank, in carrying out the activity; or “(D) resides abroad.

“Substantial assistance means, with respect to an activity prohibited by paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of subsection (a), intended to facilitate successful completion of the activity.”.

SEC. 4040. CLARIFICATION OF APPLICATION OF FOREIGN MONEY BAN.

(a) Clarification of Treatment of Provision of Certain Information as Contribution or Donation of a Thing of Value.—Section 319 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30121(a), as amended by section 4101(a), section 4101(b), section 4209, section 4401, and section 4403, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(b) No person shall be considered to have solicited, accepted, or received (directly or indirectly) a contribution, donation, or thing of value, or to have made an express or implied promise to make such a contribution or donation, or to make a contribution or donation, or thing of value, or to make an express or implied promise to make such a contribution or donation only if the provision of an opinion about a candidate as a thing of value for purposes of this section.

(b) Clarification of Application of Foreign Money Ban to All Contributions and Donations of Things of Value and to All Solicitations of Contributions and Donations of Things of Value.—Section 319(a) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30121(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking “promise to make a contribution or donation” and inserting “promise to make such a contribution or donation”;

(2) in paragraph (1)(B), by striking “donation” and inserting “thing of value, or to make an express or implied promise to make such a contribution or donation,”; and

(3) by amending paragraph (2) to read as follows:

“(2) A person to solicit, accept, or receive (directly or indirectly) a contribution, donation, or disbursement described in paragraph (1), or to solicit, accept, or receive (directly or indirectly) an express or implied promise to make such a contribution or donation, from a foreign national.”.

PART 2—NOTIFYING STATES OF DISINFORMATION CAMPAIGNS BY FOREIGN NATIONALS TO DATE

SEC. 4410. NOTIFYING STATES OF DISINFORMATION CAMPAIGNS BY FOREIGN NATIONALS.

(a) REQUIRING DISCLOSURE.—If the Federal Election Commission determines or deems it necessary to notify a State that a foreign national has initiated or attempted to initiate a disinformation campaign targeted at an election for public office held in a State, the Commission shall notify the State involved of the determination not later than 30 days after making the determination.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section the term “foreign national” shall have the same meaning as such term in section 319(b) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30121(b)).

PART 3—PROHIBITING USE OF DEEPFAKES IN ELECTION CAMPAIGNS

SEC. 4421. PROHIBITION ON DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALLY DECEPTIVE AUDIO OR VISUAL MEDIA PRIOR TO ELECTION.

(a) In General.—Title III of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30101 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(c) In General.—Except as provided in subsection (b) and (c), a person, political committee, or other entity shall not, within 60 days of an election for Federal office at which a candidate is the ballot, distribute, with actual malice, materially deceptive audio or visual media of the candidate with the intent to injure the candidate’s reputation at the beginning of the audio, at the end of the video, or to deceive a voter into voting for or against the candidate.

“(1) REQUIRED LANGUAGE.—The prohibition in subsection (a) does not apply if the audio or visual media includes—

“(A) a disclosure stating: “This has been manipulated and altered,” and

“(B) filled in the blank in the disclosure under subparagraph (A), the term ‘image’, ‘video’, or ‘audio’, as most accurately describes the media.

“(2) VISUAL MEDIA.—For visual media, the text of the disclosure shall appear in a size that is easily readable by the average viewer and no smaller that 10 point text, and shall be not less than 10 point text or larger text appearing in the visual media. If the visual media does not include any other text, the disclosure shall appear in a size that is easily readable by the average viewer. For visual media that is video, the disclosure shall appear for the duration of the video.

“(3) AUDIO-MEDIA.—If the media consists of audio only, the disclosure shall be read in a clearly spoken manner and in a pitch that can be easily heard by the average listener, at the beginning of the audio, at the end of the audio, and, if the audio is greater than 2 minutes in length, interspersed within the audio at intervals of not greater than 2 minutes each.

“(4) INAPPLICABILITY TO CERTAIN ENTITIES.—This section does not apply to the following:

“(A) A radio or television broadcasting station, programmer, or producer, when it is paid to broadcast materially deceptive audio or visual media prohibited by this section as part of bona fide newscast, news interview, news documentary, or on-the-spot coverage of events, if the broadcast clearly acknowledges through content or a disclosure, in a manner that can be easily heard or read by the average listener or viewer, that there are questions about the authenticity of the materially deceptive audio or visual media.

“(B) A radio or television broadcasting station, including a cable or satellite television operator, programmer, or producer, when it is paid to broadcast materially deceptive audio or visual media.

“(C) An internet website, or a regularly published newspaper, magazine, or other periodical of general circulation, including an internet or electronic publication, that routinely carries news and commentary of general interest, and that publishes materially deceptive audio or visual media prohibited by this section, if the publication clearly states that the materially deceptive audio or visual media does not accurately represent the speech or conduct of the candidate.

“(D) Materialement deceptive audio or visual media that constitutes satire or parody.

“(E) CIVIL ACTION.—

“(1) INJUNCTIVE OR OTHER EQUITABLE RELIEF.—The court may enjoin an election official whose voice or likeness appears in a materially deceptive audio or visual media distributed in violation of this section, with or without granting an order providing for injunctive relief prohibiting the distribution of audio or visual media in violation of this section. An action under this paragraph shall be entitled to all remedies that would be available in any action for general or special damages against the person, committee, or other entity that distributed the materially deceptive audio or visual media. The court may also award a prevailing party reasonable attorney’s fees and costs. This paragraph shall not be construed to require a plaintiff from securing or recovering any other available remedy.

“(F) BURDEN OF PROOF.—In any civil action alleging a violation of this section, the plaintiff shall bear the burden of establishing the violation through clear and convincing evidence.

“(G) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—This section shall not be construed to alter or negate any rights, obligations, or immunities of an interactive service provider under section 230 of title 47, United States Code.

“(H) MATERIALLY DECEPTIVE AUDIO OR VISUAL MEDIA DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘materially deceptive audio or visual media’ means an image or an audio or video recording of a candidate’s appearance, speech, or conduct that has been intentionally manipulated in a manner such that both of the following conditions are met:

“(1) The image or audio or video recording would falsely appear to a reasonable person to be authentic.

“(2) The image or audio or video recording would cause a reasonable person to have a fundamentally different understanding or impression of the expressive content of the image or audio or video recording than that person would have if the person were hearing or seeing the unaltered, original version of the image or audio or video recording.”.

(b) CRIMINAL PENALTIES.—Section 309(d)(1) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30109(d)(1)), as amended by section 4004, is further amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(G) Any person who knowingly and willfully commits a violation of section 325 shall be fined not more than $10,000, imprisoned not more than 5 years, or both.

(c) EFFECT ON DEFAMATION ACTION.—For purposes of an action for defamation, a violation of section 325 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as added by subsection (a), shall constitute defamation per se.

PART 4—ASSESSMENT OF EXEMPTION REQUIREMENTS UNDER FARA FOR REGISTERED LOBBYISTS

SEC. 4431. ASSESSMENT OF EXEMPTION REQUIREMENTS UNDER FARA FOR REGISTERED LOBBYISTS.

Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct and submit to Congress an assessment of the implications of the exemption provided under the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended (22 U.S.C. 611 et seq.), and section 4004, for purposes of the exemption. No persons who are also registered lobbyists under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.), and shall include in the assessment an analysis of the extent to which reissues in such agencies for foreign government money influencing elections or political processes in the United States.
Subtitle F—Secret Money Transparency

SEC. 4501. REPEAL OF RESTRICTION OF USE OF FUNDS BY INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE FOR BRING TRANSPARENCY TO POLITICAL ACTIVITY OF CERTAIN NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS.

Section 122 of the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2021 (division E of Public Law 116–260) is hereby repealed.

SEC. 4502. REPEAL OF REGULATIONS.

The final rule of the Department of the Treasury relating to guidance under section 6033 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 regarding the reporting requirements of exempt organizations at 85 Fed. Reg. 5609 (May 28, 2020) shall have no force and effect.

Subtitle G—Shareholder Right-to-Know

SEC. 4601. REPEAL OF RESTRICTION ON USE OF FUNDS BY SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION TO ENSURE SHAREHOLDERS OF CORPORATIONS HAVE KNOWLEDGE OF CORPORATION POLITICAL ACTIVITY.

Section 631 of the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2021 (division E of Public Law 116–260) is hereby repealed.

SEC. 4602. ASSESSMENT OF SHAREHOLDER PREFERENCES FOR DISBURSEMENTS FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES.

(a) ASSESSMENT REQUIRED.—The Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78a et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 10D the following:

"SEC. 10E. ASSESSMENT OF SHAREHOLDER PREFERENCES FOR DISBURSEMENTS FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES.

(1) A ssessment required.—The Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78a et seq.) is amended by adding after section 10D the following:

"(a) ASSESSMENT REQUIRED BEFORE MAKING A DISBURSEMENT FOR A POLITICAL PURPOSE.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—An issuer with an equity security listed on a national securities exchange may not make a disbursement for a political purpose unless—

(A) the issuer has in place procedures to assess the preferences of the shareholders of the issuer with respect to making such disbursements; and

(B) such an assessment has been made within the 1-year period ending on the date of such disbursement.

(2) TREATMENT OF ISSUERS WHOSE SHAREHOLDERS ARE PROHIBITED FROM EXPRESSING PREFERENCES.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), an issuer described under such paragraph with procedures in place to assess the preferences of its shareholders with respect to making disbursements for political purposes shall not be subject to the requirements of such paragraph if a majority of the number of the outstanding equity securities of the issuer is held by persons who are prohibited from expressing partisan or political preferences by law, contract, or the requirement to meet a fiduciary duty.

(3) NO ASSESSMENT OF PREFERENCES FOR FOREIGN NATIONALS.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), an issuer described in such paragraph shall not use procedures described in such paragraph to assess the preferences of an issuer who is a foreign national, as defined in section 1319 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30101).

(b) ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS.—The assessment described under subsection (a) shall assess—

(1) which types of disbursements for a political purpose the shareholder believes the issuer should make;

(2) whether the shareholder believes that such disbursements should be made in support of, or in opposition to, Republican, Democratic, Independent, or other political party candidates and political committees;

(3) whether the shareholder believes that such disbursements should be made with respect to elections for Federal, State, or local office; and

(4) such other information as the Commission may specify, by rule.

"(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this section, the term 'disbursement for a political purpose' means any of the following:

(A) A disbursement for an independent expenditure, as defined in section 301(17) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30101(17)).

(B) A disbursement for an electioneering communication, as defined in section 301(22) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30101(22)).

(2) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the term 'disbursement for a political purpose' has the meaning given such term in section 10C of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

"(c) DISBURSEMENT FOR A POLITICAL PURPOSE DEFINED.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this section, the term 'disbursement for a political purpose' means any of the following:

(A) A disbursement for an independent expenditure, as defined in section 301(17) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30101(17)).

(B) A disbursement for an electioneering communication, as defined in section 301(22) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30101(22)).

(2) ASSESSMENT OF GOVERNANCE.—The Commission shall, on an ongoing basis, collect information on the governance of the separate segregated funds of corporations under this section, using the most recent statements of organization and governance provided by such funds under section 303(a), including information on the following:

(1) The extent to which such funds have by-laws which govern their operations.

(2) The extent to which such funds which have by-laws which govern their operations use a board of directors to oversee the operation of the fund.

(3) The characteristics of those individuals who serve on boards of directors which oversee the operations of such funds, including the relation of such individuals to the corporation.


(2) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commission shall submit to Congress a report on the analysis conducted under paragraph (1), and shall initiate the promulgation of a regulation to establish a new definition and classification of such separate segregated funds.

Subtitle H—Disclosure of Political Spending by Government Contractors

SEC. 4701. REPEAL OF RESTRICTION ON USE OF FUNDS TO BE USED IN LOBBYING FOR POLITICAL SPENDING BY GOVERNMENT CONTRACTORS.

Section 735 of the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2021 (division E of Public Law 116–260) is hereby repealed.

Subtitle I—Limitation and Disclosure Requirements for Presidential Inaugural Committees

SEC. 4801. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the "Presidential Inaugural Committee Oversight Act of 2021."
donation shall be considered to be converted to personal use if any part of the donated amount is used to fulfill a commitment, obligation, or expense of a person that would exist irrespective of their responsibilities of the Inaugural Committee under chapter 5 of title 36, United States Code.

(3) NO EFFECT ON DISBURSEMENT OF UNUSED FUNDS TO NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS.—Nothing in this subsection may be construed to prohibit an Inaugural Committee from disbursing unused funds to an organization which is described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of such Code.

(b) LIMITATION ON DONATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—It shall be unlawful for an individual to make donations to an Inaugural Committee, which, in the aggregate, exceed $50,000.

(2) INDEXING.—At the beginning of each Presidential election year (beginning in 2028), the amount described in paragraph (1) shall be increased by the cumulative percent difference determined in section 315(c)(1)(A) since the previous Presidential election year. If any amount after such increase is not a multiple of $1,000, such amount shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of $1,000.

(c) DISCLOSURE OF CERTAIN DONATIONS AND DISBURSEMENTS.—

(1) DONATIONS OVER $1,000.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—An Inaugural Committee shall file with the Commission a report disclosing any donation by an individual to the committee in an aggregate amount of $1,000 or more late not later than 24 hours after the receipt of such donation.

(B) CONTENTS OF REPORT.—A report filed under subparagraph (A) shall contain—

(i) the amount of the donation;

(ii) the date the donation is received; and

(iii) the name and address of the individual making the donation.

(2) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than the date that is 90 days after the date of the Presidential inaugural ceremony, the Inaugural Committee shall file with the Commission a report containing the following information:

(A) For each donation of money or anything of value made to the committee in an aggregate amount equal to or greater than $200—

(i) the amount of the donation;

(ii) the date the donation is received; and

(iii) the name and address of the individual making the donation.

(B) The total amount of all disbursements, and all disbursements in the following categories:

(i) Disbursements made to meet committee operating expenses.

(ii) Repayment of all loans.

(iii) Donation refunds and other offsets to donations.

(iv) Any other disbursements.

(C) The name and address of each person—

(i) to whom a disbursement in an aggregate amount or value in excess of $200 is made by the committee to meet a committee operating expense, together with date, amount, and purpose of such operating expense;

(ii) who receives a loan repayment from the committee, together with the date and amount of such loan repayment; and

(iii) who receives a donation refund or other offset to donations from the committee, together with the date and amount of such disbursement; and

(iv) to whom any other disbursement in an aggregate amount or value in excess of $200 is made by the committee, together with the date and amount of such disbursement.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section:

(UA) The term 'donation includes—

(i) any gift, subscription, loan, advance, or deposit of money or anything of value made by any person to the committee;

(ii) the payment by any person of compensation for the personal services of another person which are rendered to the committee without charge for any purpose; and

(iv) the term 'foreign national' has the meaning given that term by section 319(b).

(3) The term 'Inaugural Committee' has the meaning given that term by section 301 of title 36, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

§530. Disclosure of and prohibition on certain donations

A committee shall not be considered to be the Inaugural Committee for purposes of this chapter unless the committee agrees to—

(A) the provisions of section 101 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971.;

(b) CONFIRMING AMENDMENT RELATED TO REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Section 304 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30104) is amended—

(C) The name and address of each person—

(i) to whom a disbursement in an aggregate amount of $1,000 or more is made by the Inaugural Committee established under section 5 of title 36, United States Code, for inaugurations held in 2025 and any succeeding year.

Title V—Campaign Finance Empowerment

Subtitle A—Findings relating to Citizens United Decision

Sec. 5001. Findings relating to Citizens United Decision.

Subtitle B—Congressional Elections

Sec. 5100. Short title.

PART I—My Voice Voucher Pilot Program

Sec. 5101. Establishment of pilot program.

Sec. 5102. Voucher program described.

Sec. 5103. Reports.

Sec. 5104. Definitions.

PART II—Small Dollar Financing of Congressional Election Campaigns

Sec. 5111. Benefits and eligibility requirements for candidates.

Title V—Small Dollar Financing of Congressional Election Campaigns

Subtitle A—Benefits

Sec. 501. Benefits for participating candidates.

Sec. 502. Procedures for making payments.

Sec. 503. Use of funds.

Sec. 504. Qualified small dollar contributions described.

Subtitle B—Eligibility and Certification

Sec. 511. Eligibility.
Sec. 5101. FINDINGS RELATING TO CITIZENS UNITED DECISION.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The American Republic was founded on the principle that all people are created equal, with rights and responsibilities as citizens to vote, be represented, speak, debate, and participate in an equal-run forum regardless of wealth. To secure these rights and responsibilities, our Constitution not only protects the equal rights of all Americans but also provides constitutional protections to prevent corruption and prevent concentrated power and wealth from undermining effective self-government.

(2) The Founders designed the First Amendment to help prevent tyranny by ensuring that the people have the tools they need to ensure self-government and to keep their elected leaders responsive to the public. The Amendment thus guarantees freedom of speech and press, protection for redress of grievances, and freedom of assembly. The American people have the right to assemble together, free from the fear of government reprisal, and thus to make their voices heard in support of the policies they believe in, and to censure with equal ability those they do not.

(3) Campaign finance laws promote these First Amendment interests. They increase robust debate from diverse voices, enhance the responsiveness of elected officeholders, and help prevent corruption. They do not censor anyone’s speech but simply ensure that no one’s speech is more heard or more influential than the others. They provide a mechanism to prevent corruption and prevent concentrated power and wealth from undermining effective self-government.

(4) The Supreme Court’s decisions in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission, 558 U.S. 310 (2010) and McCutcheon v. FEC, 572 U.S. 185 (2014), eroded campaign finance law, including by prohibiting such artificial entities, like corporations, from making campaign contributions or other expenditures to influence elections. In 2016, a presidential commission on election day recommended spending limits and incentives to increase small contributions from more people.

(5) The Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (FECA), as amended in 1974, required disclosure of contributions and expenditures, imposed contribution and expenditure limits for individuals and groups, set spending limits for campaigns, and created the Federal Election Commission to oversee and enforce the new rules. In 1984, the Federal Election Commission Act created the Commission to oversee and enforce the new rules.

In the wake of Citizens United and the other decisions prohibiting Federal election court decisions, Americans have witnessed an explosion of outside spending in elections. Outside spending increased more than 700 percent between the 2008 and 2020 Presidential election years. Spending by outside groups nearly doubled again from 2016 to 2020 with super PACs, tax-exempt groups, and others spending more than $3,000,000,000. And as political entities adapt to a post-Citizens United world, projects, public town halls, and small-dollar donation programs, these trends are getting worse, as evidenced by the record-setting 2020 elections which cost more than $14,000,000,000 in total.

Since the landmark Citizens United decision, 21 States and more than 800 municipalities, including large cities like New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, and Philadelphia, have gone on record supporting a constitutional amendment. Transcending political leanings and geographic location, voters in States and municipalities across the country have supported advancement questions on the ballot have routinely supported these initiatives by considerably large margins.

The Court has held that the First Amendment guarantees the people the tools they need to ensure self-government and to keep their elected leaders responsive to the public. The Amendment thus guarantees freedom of speech and press, protection for redress of grievances, and freedom of assembly. The American people have the right to assemble together, free from the fear of government reprisal, and thus to make their voices heard in support of the policies they believe in, and to censure with equal ability those they do not.

(11) The torrent of money flowing into our political system has a profound effect on the democratic process for everyday Americans, whose voices are lost in the noise and whose influence is drowned out by those of wealthy special interests. The more campaign cash from wealthy special interests, the more campaign cash from wealthy special interests, and the more campaign cash from wealthy special interests, the more campaign cash from wealthy special interests.

(12) The Court has held that the First Amendment guarantees the people the tools they need to ensure self-government and to keep their elected leaders responsive to the public. The Amendment thus guarantees freedom of speech and press, protection for redress of grievances, and freedom of assembly. The American people have the right to assemble together, free from the fear of government reprisal, and thus to make their voices heard in support of the policies they believe in, and to censure with equal ability those they do not.

(13) The torrent of money flowing into our political system has a profound effect on the democratic process for everyday Americans, whose voices are lost in the noise and whose influence is drowned out by those of wealthy special interests. The more campaign cash from wealthy special interests, the more campaign cash from wealthy special interests, and the more campaign cash from wealthy special interests, the more campaign cash from wealthy special interests.

(14) At the same time millions of Americans have signed petitions, marched, called their Members of Congress, written letters to the editor, and otherwise demonstrated their public support for a constitutional amendment to overturn Citizens United that will allow Congress to reign in the outsized influence of unchecked money in politics. Dozens of organizations, representing tens of millions of individuals, have come together in a shared strategy of supporting such an amendment.

(15) In order to protect the integrity of democracy in the electoral process and to ensure political equality for all, the Constitution should be amended so that Congress and the States may regulate and set limits on the raising and spending of money to influence elections and may distinguish between natural persons and artificial entities, like corporations, that are created by law, including by prohibiting such artificial entities from spending money to influence elections.
voucher pilot program under this part shall take such actions as may be necessary to ensure that the State will be ready to operate the program during the program operation period, and shall complete the necessary actions not later than the second day after the beginning of the program operation period.

(e) TERMINATION.—Each voucher pilot program under this part shall terminate as of the first day after the program operation period.

(f) REIMBURSEMENT OF COSTS.—

(1) Upon receiving the report submitted by a State under section 5103(a) with respect to an election cycle, the Commission shall transmit a payment to the State in an amount sufficient to cover the reasonable costs incurred by the State in operating the voucher pilot program under this part during the cycle.

(2) SOURCE OF FUNDS.—Payments to States under this subsection shall be made using amounts in the Freedom From Influence Fund under section 541 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (as added by section 5111), hereafter referred to as the "Fund".

(3) MANDATORY REDUCTION OF PAYMENTS IN CASE OF INSUFFICIENT AMOUNTS IN FREEDOM FROM INFLUENCE FUND.—

(A) NEW APPLICABILITY BY COMMISSION.—Not later than 90 days before the first day of each program operation period, the Commission shall—

(i) audit the Fund to determine whether, after first making payments to participating candidates under section 5 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (as added by section 5111), the amounts remaining in the Fund will be sufficient to make payments to States under this part in the amounts provided under this subsection; and

(ii) submit a report to Congress describing the results of the audit.

(B) REDUCTIONS IN AMOUNT OF PAYMENTS.—

(i) REDUCTION ON PRO RATA BASIS.—If, on the basis of the audit described in subparagraph (A), the Commission determines that the amount anticipated to be available in the Fund with respect to an election cycle included is not, or may not be, sufficient to make payments to States under this part in the full amount provided under this subsection, the Commission shall—

(A) reduce the amount which would otherwise be paid to a State under this subsection by such pro rata amount as may be necessary to ensure that the aggregate amount of payments to States under this part with respect to the cycle will not exceed the amount anticipated to be available for such payments in the Fund with respect to such cycle;

(B) REDUCTIONS IN CASE OF INSUFFICIENT FUNDS DURING ELECTION CYCLE.—If, after reducing the amounts paid to States with respect to an election cycle under clause (i), the Commission determines that there are sufficient amounts in the Fund to restore the amount by which such payments are reduced (or any portion thereof), to the extent that such amounts are available, the Commission may make a payment on a pro rata basis to each such State with respect to the cycle in the amount of payments to such State's residents were reduced under clause (i) (or any portion thereof, as the case may be);

(C) REDUCTIONS ON ACCOUNT OF AVAILABILITY OF SUFFICIENT FUNDS DURING ELECTION CYCLE.—If, after reducing the amounts paid to States with respect to an election cycle under clause (i), the Commission determines that there are sufficient funds in the Fund to make payments to States under this part, monies shall not be made available from any other source for the purpose of making such payments.

(4) CAP ON AMOUNT OF PAYMENT.—The aggregate amount of payments made to any State with respect to any program operation period may not exceed $10,000,000. If the State determines that the maximum payment amount under this paragraph with respect to the program operation period is not, or may not be, sufficient to cover the reasonable costs incurred by the State in operating the program under this part for such period, the State shall reduce the amount of the voucher provided to each qualified individual by such pro rata amount as may be necessary to ensure that the reasonable costs incurred by the Commission in operating the program will not exceed the amount paid to the State with respect to such period.

SEC. 5102. VOUCHER PROGRAM DESCRIBED.

(a) GENERAL.—

(1) ELEMENTS DESCRIBED.—The elements of a voucher pilot program operated by a State under this part are as follows:

(A) The State shall provide each qualified individual upon the individual's request with a voucher worth $25 to be known as a "My Voice Voucher" during the election cycle which will be assigned a routing number and which at the option of the individual will be provided in either paper or electronic form.

(B) Using the routing number assigned to the My Voice Voucher, the individual may submit the My Voice Voucher in either electronic or paper form to qualified candidates for election for the office of Representative in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress and allocate such portion of the value of the My Voice Voucher in increments of $5 as the individual may select to any such candidate.

(C) If the candidate is an individual who has already received a My Voice Voucher from the Commission, in addition to the My Voice Voucher the candidate shall pay the candidate the portion of the value of the My Voice Voucher that the individual allocated to the candidate.

(D) The My Voice Voucher shall be divisible among candidates for election for Federal office.

(2) DESIGNATION OF QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS.—For purposes of paragraph (1)(A), a "qualified individual" with respect to a State means an individual—

(A) who is a resident of the State;

(B) who will be of voting age as of the date of the election for the candidate to whom the individual submits a My Voice Voucher; and

(C) who is not a Federal executive or other Federal law from making contributions to candidates for election for Federal office.

(3) TREATMENT AS CONTRIBUTION TO CANDIDATE.—For purposes of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, the submission of a My Voice Voucher to a candidate by an individual shall be treated as a contribution to the candidate by the individual in the amount of the portion of the value of the Voucher that the individual allocated to the candidate.

(b) FRAUD PREVENTION MECHANISM.—In addition to the elements described in subsection (a), a State operating a voucher pilot program under this part shall permit an individual to revoke a My Voice Voucher not later than 2 days after submitting the My Voice Voucher to a candidate.

(c) OVERSIGHT COMMISSION.—In addition to the elements described in subsection (a), a State operating a voucher pilot program under this part shall establish a commission or designate an existing entity to oversee and implement the program in the State, except that no such commission or entity may be comprised of elected officials.

(d) PUBLIC INFORMATION CAMPAIGN.—In addition to the elements described in subsection (a), a State operating a voucher pilot program under this part shall carry out a public information campaign to disseminate awareness of the program among qualified individuals.

SEC. 5103. REPORTS.

(a) PRELIMINARY REPORT.—Not later than 6 months after the first election cycle of the program operation period, a State which operates a voucher pilot program under this part shall submit a report to the Commission analyzing the operation and effectiveness of the program during the cycle and including such other information as the Commission considers appropriate.

(b) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 6 months after the end of the program operation period, the State shall submit a final report to the Commission analyzing the operation and effectiveness of the program and including such other information as the Commission may require.
the candidate since the most recent payment made to the candidate under this title during the election cycle;

(2) a statement of the amount of the payment the candidate anticipates receiving with respect to the request;

(3) a statement of the total amount of payments the candidate has received under this title as of the date of request; and

(4) such other information and assurances as the Commission may require.

(b) Restrictions on Submission of Requests—(1) a candidate shall not submit a request under subsection (a) unless each of the following applies:

(1) The amount of the qualified small dollar contribution or independent expenditure the candidate referred to in subsection (a)(1) is equal to or greater than $5,000, unless the request is submitted during the 30-day period which ends on the date of a general election.

(2) The candidate did not receive a payment under this title during the 7-day period which ends on the date the candidate submits the request.

(c) Time of Payment.—The Commission shall, in coordination with the Secretary of the Treasury, take such steps as may be necessary to ensure that the Secretary is able to make payments under this section from the Treasury not later than 2 business days after the receipt of a request that meets the requirements of subsection (a).

SEC. 503. Use of Funds.

(a) Use of Funds for Authorized Campaign Expenditures.—A candidate shall use payments made under this title, including payments provided with respect to a previous election cycle which are withheld from remittance to the Commission in accordance with section 524(a)(2), only for making direct payments for the receipt of goods and services which constitute authorized expenditures (as determined in accordance with title III) in connection with the election cycle involved.

(b) Inducing Use of Funds for Legal Expenses, Fines, or Penalties.—Notwithstanding standing title III, a candidate may not use payments made under this title for the payment of expenses incurred in connection with any action, claim, or other matter before the Commission or before any court, hearing officer, arbitrator, or other dispute resolution entity, or for the payment of any fine or civil monetary penalty.

SEC. 504. Qualified Small Dollar Contributions Described.

(a) In this section, the term ‘qualified small dollar contribution’ means, with respect to a candidate and the authorized committees of a candidate, a contribution that meets the following requirements:

(1) The contribution is in an amount that is

(A) not less than $1; and

(B) not more than $200.

(2) (A) The contribution is made directly by an individual to the candidate or an authorized committee of the candidate and is not

(i) received by the individual making the contribution to the candidate or committee by another person; or

(ii) received by the candidate or committee with the knowledge that the contribution was made at the request, suggestion, or recommendation of another person.

(B) In this paragraph, ‘individual’ does not include an individual (other than an individual described in section 304(c)(7) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971), a political committee of a political organization or a political committee that is not a separate segregated fund described in section 316(b) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 and which does not make contributions which are treated as expenditures as a result of the provisions of section 504(d).

(i) the term ‘person’ does not include an individual (other than an individual described in section 304(c)(7) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971), a political committee of a political organization or a political committee that is not a separate segregated fund described in section 316(b) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 and which does not make contributions which are treated as expenditures as a result of the provisions of section 504(d).

(ii) the term ‘person’ does not include an individual (other than an individual described in section 304(c)(7) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971), a political committee of a political organization or a political committee that is not a separate segregated fund described in section 316(b) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 and which does not make contributions which are treated as expenditures as a result of the provisions of section 504(d).

(ii) a contribution is not ‘made at the request, suggestion, or recommendation of another person’ solely on the grounds that the contribution is provided to the individual making the contribution by any person, so long as the candidate or authorized committee does not know the identity of the person who provided the information to such individual.

(3) The individual who makes the contribution does not either forward it to the candidate or the authorized committees of the candidate with respect to the election involved in an aggregate amount that exceeds the amount described in paragraph (2) if the contribution is an independent expenditure or any contribution to the candidate or the authorized committees of the candidate with respect to the election involved otherwise is not a qualified small dollar contribution.

(b) Treatment of My Voice Vouchers.—Any payment received by a candidate and the authorized committees of a candidate which has a My Voice Voucher under the Government By the People Act of 2021 shall be considered a qualified small dollar contribution for purposes of this title, so long as the individual making the contribution is the person who provided the information to such individual.

SEC. 505. Restrictions on Subsequent Contributions.

(a) Prohibiting Donor from Making Subsequent Nonqualified Contributions During Election Cycle.—

(A) in general.—An individual who makes a qualified small dollar contribution to a candidate or the authorized committees of a candidate with respect to an election may not make a subsequent contribution to such candidate or the authorized committees of such candidate with respect to the election cycle which is not a qualified small dollar contribution.

(B) Exception for Contributions to Candidates Who Voluntarily Withhold from Participation during Qualifying Period.—Subparagraph (A) does not apply with respect to a contribution made to a candidate who, during the Small Dollar Democracy qualifying period described in section 511(c), submits a statement to the Commission under section 513(c) to voluntarily withdraw from participating in the program under this title.

(2) Treatment of Subsequent Nonqualified Contributions.—If, notwithstanding the prohibitions described in paragraph (1), an individual makes a qualified small dollar contribution to a candidate or the authorized committees of a candidate with respect to an election makes a subsequent contribution to such candidate or the authorized committees of such candidate with respect to the election which is prohibited under paragraph (1) because such contribution is not a qualified small dollar contribution, the candidate may take one of the following actions:

(A) Not later than 2 weeks after receiving the contribution, the candidate may return the subsequent contribution to the individual. In the case of a subsequent contribution which is not a qualified small dollar contribution because the contribution fails to meet the requirements of paragraph (3) of subsection (a) (relating to the aggregate amount of contributions made to the candidate or the authorized committees of the candidate by the individual making the contribution), the candidate may return an amount equal to the difference between the amount of the subsequent contribution and the aggregate amount described in paragraph (1)(B) of subsection (a).

(B) The candidate may retain the subsequent contribution, so long as not later than 2 weeks after receipt, determine, the candidate remits to the Commission for deposit in the Freedom From Influence Fund under section 541 an amount equal to any payments received by the candidate under this title which are attributable to the qualified small dollar contribution made by the individual involved.

(2) No Effect on Any Multiple Contributions.—Nothing in this section may be construed to prohibit an individual from making multiple qualified small dollar contributions to different candidates, so long as each contribution meets each of the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of subsection (a).

(b) Notification Requirements for Candidates.—

(1) Notification.—Each authorized committee of a candidate who seeks to be a participating candidate under this title shall provide the following information in any materials for the solicitation of contributions, including any internet site through which individuals may make contributions to the committee:

(A) A statement that if the candidate is certified as a participating candidate under this title, the candidate will receive matching payments in an amount which is based on the total amount of qualified small dollar contributions received.

(B) A statement that a contribution which meets the requirements set forth in subsection (a) shall be treated as a qualified small dollar contribution under this title.

(2) Alternative Methods of Meeting Requirements.—An authorized committee may meet the requirements of paragraph (1)—

(A) by including the information described in paragraph (1) in the receipt provided under section 312(b)(3) to a recipient making a qualified small dollar contribution; or

(B) by modifying the information it provides to persons making contributions which is otherwise required under title III (including information it provides through the internet).

Subtitle B—Eligibility and Certification

SEC. 511. Eligibility.

(a) in general.—A candidate for the office of Representative in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico who does not verify under oath to be an individual who is not required under law to be on the ballot the following information:—

(1) The candidate files with the Commission a statement of intent to seek certification as a participating candidate.

(2) The candidate meets the qualifying requirements of section 512.

(c) More Than One Qualifying Period.—A candidate who certifies under oath to be on the ballot for more than one qualifying period under this section, shall verify to the Commission in the manner required under section 512(b) of the Act, one additional statement for each qualifying period during which the candidate is certified as a participating candidate.

(4) Not later than the last day of the Small Dollar Democracy qualifying period, the candidate files with the Commission a candidate certification statement signed by the candidate and the treasurer of the candidate’s principal campaign committee declaring that the candidate—

(A) has either qualified or will take steps to qualify under State law to be on the ballot of such qualified small dollar contribution because the contribution fails to meet the requirements of paragraph (3) of subsection (a) (relating to the aggregate amount of contributions made to the candidate or the authorized committees of the candidate by the individual making the contribution), the candidate may return an amount equal to the difference between the amount of the subsequent contribution and the aggregate amount described in paragraph (1)(B) of subsection (a).

(B) The candidate may retain the subsequent contribution, so long as not later than 2 weeks after receipt, determine, the candidate remits to the Commission for deposit in the Freedom From Influence Fund under section 541 an amount equal to any payments received by the candidate under this title which are attributable to the qualified small dollar contribution made by the individual involved.

(2) No Effect on Any Multiple Contributions.—Nothing in this section may be construed to prohibit an individual from making multiple qualified small dollar contributions to different candidates, so long as each contribution meets each of the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of subsection (a).

(b) Notification Requirements for Candidates.—

(1) Notification.—Each authorized committee of a candidate who seeks to be a participating candidate under this title shall provide the following information in any materials for the solicitation of contributions, including any internet site through which individuals may make contributions to the committee:

(A) A statement that if the candidate is certified as a participating candidate under this title, the candidate will receive matching payments in an amount which is based on the total amount of qualified small dollar contributions received.

(B) A statement that a contribution which meets the requirements set forth in subsection (a) shall be treated as a qualified small dollar contribution under this title.

(2) Alternative Methods of Meeting Requirements.—An authorized committee may meet the requirements of paragraph (1)—

(A) by including the information described in paragraph (1) in the receipt provided under section 312(b)(3) to a recipient making a qualified small dollar contribution; or

(B) by modifying the information it provides to persons making contributions which is otherwise required under title III (including information it provides through the internet).

Subtitle B—Eligibility and Certification

SEC. 511. Eligibility.

(a) in general.—A candidate for the office of Representative in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico who does not verify under oath to be an individual who is not required under law to be on the ballot the following information:—

(1) The candidate files with the Commission a statement of intent to seek certification as a participating candidate.

(2) The candidate meets the qualifying requirements of section 512.

(c) More Than One Qualifying Period.—A candidate who certifies under oath to be on the ballot for more than one qualifying period under this section, shall verify to the Commission in the manner required under section 512(b) of the Act, one additional statement for each qualifying period during which the candidate is certified as a participating candidate.
ballot for the general election or the candidate is otherwise qualified to be on the ballot under State law.

(c) Small Dollar Democracy Qualifying Period.—The term ‘Small Dollar Democracy qualifying period’ means, with respect to any candidate for an office, the 180-day period (during the election cycle for such office) which begins on the date on which the candidate files a statement of intent under section 511(a)(1), except that such period may not continue after the date that is 30 days before the date of the general election for the office.

§ 452. QUALIFYING REQUIREMENTS.

(1) RECEIPT OF QUALIFIED SMALL DOLLAR CONTRIBUTIONS.—A candidate for the office of Representative in Congress, Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress meets the requirement of this section if, during the Small Dollar Democracy qualifying period described in section 511(c), each of the following occurs:

(2) The candidate obtains a total dollar amount of qualified small dollar contributions which is equal to or greater than $50,000.

(b) REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO RECEIPT OF QUALIFIED SMALL DOLLAR CONTRIBUTIONS.—Each qualified small dollar contribution—

(1) may be made by means of a personal check, money order, debit card, credit card, electronic funds transfer, or any other method deemed appropriate by the Commission;

(2) shall be accompanied by a signed statement (or, in the case of a contribution made online or through other electronic means, an electronic equivalent) containing the contributor's name and address; and

(3) shall be acknowledged by a receipt that is sent to the contributor by a copy (in paper or electronic form) kept by the candidate for the Commission.

(c) VERIFICATION OF CONTRIBUTIONS.—The Commission shall establish procedures for the auditing and verification of the contributions received and expenditures made by participating candidates under this title, including procedures for random audits, to ensure that such contributions and expenditures meet the requirements of this title.

§ 513. CERTIFICATION.

(a) DEADLINE AND CERTIFICATION.—Not later than 5 business days after a candidate files an affidavit under section 511(a)(4), the Commission shall—

(1) determine whether or not the candidate meets the requirements for certification as a participating candidate; and

(2) notify the candidate of the Commission's determination.

(b) DEEMED CERTIFICATION FOR ALL ELECTIONS IN ELECTIC CYCLE.—If the Commission certifies a candidate as a participating candidate with respect to the first election of the election cycle in which the candidate files an affidavit under section 511(a)(1), the candidate shall be deemed to have certified the candidate as a participating candidate with respect to all subsequent elections of the election cycle.

§ 514. RECIPROCATING PARTICIPATION IN FUTURE ELECTIONS FOR CANDIDATES WITH MULTIPLE REVOLUTIONS.—If the Commission gives the certification described in subsection (a), in the case of a candidate whose certification is revoked pursuant to subparagraph (A) or subparagraph (B), the candidate shall notify the Commission on the basis of an appropriate annual percentage rate (for the month involved) on any such amount received.

(c) SPENDING LIMITATIONS.—No candidate who has accepted contributions that are not described in subsection (a) is not in violation of subsection (a), but only if all such contributions are returned to the contributor.

(d) VOLTARY WITHDRAWAL FROM PARTICIPATING CANDIDATE DURING QUALIFYING PERIOD.—At any time during the qualifying period described in section 511(c), a candidate may withdraw from participation in the program under this title by submitting to the Commission an signed statement (without regard to whether or not the Commission has certified the candidate as a participating candidate under this title as of the time the candidate submits such statement), so long as the candidate has not submitted a request for payment under section 502.

§ 515. PARTICIPATING CANDIDATE DEFINED.—In this title, a ‘participating candidate’ means a candidate for the office of Representative in Congress, Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress who is certified under this section as eligible to receive contributions and expenditures under this title.

§ 516. CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES REQUIREMENTS.

(a) PERMITTED SOURCES OF CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES.—Except as provided in section 319(c), contributions and expenditures for the office of the candidate involved, accepted from any source and made by a political party in coordination with a participating candidate and not returned to the contributor; and

(b) PAYMENTS UNDER THIS TITLE.—

(1) Contributions from political committees established and maintained by a national or State political party, or any such committee, and subject to the applicable limitation of section 315.

(4) Subject to subsection (b), payments for personal funds of the candidate or of any immediate family member of the candidate (other than funds received through qualified small dollar contributions).

(5) Contributions from individuals who are otherwise permitted to make contributions under paragraph (2) or paragraph (4) of this subsection, with respect to any election during the election cycle may not exceed $1,000.

§ 517. CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES OF CANDIDATES WHO ARE ELECTED.—If a candidate is elected in an election cycle occurring during the Small Dollar Democracy qualifying period described in section 511(c), the candidate may accept and make contributions and expenditures under this title as of the time the candidate is certified as a participating candidate under this title with respect to any subsequent election.
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“SEC. 524. REMITTING UNSPENT FUNDS AFTER ELECTION.

(a) Remittance Required.—Not later than the date that is 180 days after the last election for which a candidate was certified as a participating candidate qualifies to be on the ballot during the election cycle, such participating candidate shall remit to the Commission an amount equal to the balance of the payments received under this title by the authorized committees of the candidate which remain unexpended as of such date.

(b) PERMITTING CANDIDATES PARTICIPATING IN NEXT ELECTION TO RETAIN PORTION OF UNSPENT FUNDS.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), a participating candidate may withhold not more than $100,000 from the amount required to be remitted under paragraph (1) if the candidate files a signed affidavit with the Commission that the candidate will seek certification as a participating candidate with respect to the next election cycle, the candidate may not use any portion of the amount withheld until the candidate is certified as a participating candidate with respect to that next election cycle, the candidate shall immediately remit to the Commission the amount withheld.

Title D—Enhanced Match Support

“SEC. 531. ENHANCED SUPPORT FOR GENERAL ELECTION.

(a) Availability of Enhanced Support.—In addition to the payments made under subsection (A), the Commission shall make an additional payment to an eligible candidate under this subtitle only if the candidate anticipates receiving with respect to that election cycle, except that the candidate may not use any portion of the amount withheld until the candidate is certified as a participating candidate with respect to that next election cycle, the candidate shall immediately remit to the Commission the amount withheld.

(b) Use of Funds.—A candidate shall use the additional payment under this title only for authorized expenditures in connection with the election involved.

“SEC. 532. ELIGIBILITY.

(a) In General.—A candidate is eligible to receive an additional payment under this subtitle if the candidate meets each of the following requirements:

(1) The candidate is on the ballot for the general election for the office the candidate seeks.

(2) The candidate is certified as a participating candidate under this title with respect to the election.

(3) During the enhanced support qualifying period, the candidate receives qualified small dollar contributions in a total amount of not less than $50,000.

(b) Enhanced Support Qualifying Period.—(A) A statement of the amount of the payment the candidate anticipates receiving with respect to the request; and

(5) After submitting a request for the additional payment under paragraph (4), the candidate does not submit any other application for an additional payment under this title.

(b) Enhanced Support Qualifying Period Described.—In this subtitle, the term ‘enhanced support qualifying period’ means, with respect to the request that begins 60 days before the date of the election and ends 14 days before the date of the election.

Title E—Administrative Provisions

“SEC. 541. FREEDOM FROM INFLUENCE FUND.

(a) Establishment.—There is established in the Treasury a fund to be known as the ‘Freedom From Influence Fund’.

(b) Amounts Held by Fund.—The Fund shall consist of the following amounts:

(1) Assessments against fines, settlements, and penalties.—Amounts transferred under section 3015 of title 18, United States Code, section 3706 of title 11, United States Code, and section 6761 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(2) Deposits.—Amounts deposited into the Fund under—

(A) section 521(c)(1)(B) (relating to exceptions to contribution requirements);

(B) section 523 (relating to remittance of unused payments from the Funds); and

(C) section 544 (relating to violations).

(c) Use of Fund to Make Payments to Participating Candidates.—Payments to participating candidates in the Fund shall be made to participating candidates as provided in this title.

(2) Mandatory Reduction of Payments in Case of Insufficient Amounts in Fund.—(A) Advance Audits by Commission.—Not later than 90 days before the first day of each election cycle (beginning with the first election cycle that begins after the date of the enactment of this title), the Commission shall audit the Fund to determine whether the amounts in the Fund will be sufficient to make payments to participating candidates in the Fund as provided in this title during such election cycle; and

(ii) submit a report to Congress describing the results of the audit.

(3) Automatic Reduction on Pro Rata Basis.—If, on the basis of the audit described in

“SEC. 533. AMOUNT.

(a) In General.—Subject to subsection (b), the amount of the additional payment made to an eligible candidate under this title shall be an amount equal to 50 percent of—

(1) the amount of the payment made to the candidate under section 501(b) with respect to such qualified small dollar contributions because the candidate has reached the limit of the aggregate amount of payments made to a participating candidate under subsection (a) for the election cycle under section 501(c), the amount of the payment which would have been made to the candidate under section 501(b) for the election cycle under section 501(c); and

(2) the case of a candidate who is not eligible to receive a payment under section 501(b) with respect to such qualified small dollar contributions because the candidate has reached the limit of the aggregate amount of payments made to a participating candidate under subsection (a) for the election cycle under section 501(c).

(b) Limit.—The amount of the additional payment determined under subsection (a) with respect to a candidate may not exceed $500,000.

(2) No Effect on Aggregate Limit.—The amount of the additional payment made to a candidate under this subtitle shall not be included in determining the aggregate amount of payments made to a participating candidate with respect to an election cycle under section 501(c).

“SEC. 534. WAIVER OF AUTHORITY TO RETAIN PORTION OF UNSPENT FUNDS AFTER ELECTION.

(a) MANDATORY IDENTIFICATION OF INDIVIDUALS MAKING QUALIFIED SMALL DOLLAR CONTRIBUTIONS.—Each authorized committee of a candidate certified as a participating candidate under this title and the candidate does not terminate the leadership PAC, the candidate shall not be considered to be in violation of paragraph (1) so long as the leadership PAC does not receive any contributions or make any disbursements during the election cycle for which the candidate is certified as a participating candidate under this title.

(b) Leadership PAC Defined.—In this section, the term ‘leadership PAC’ has the meaning given such term in section 304(i)(8)(B).

“SEC. 522. ADMINISTRATION OF CAMPAIGN.

(a) Separate Accounting for Various Permitted Contributions.—Each authorized committee of a candidate certified as a participating candidate under this title shall—

(1) shall provide for separate accounting of each type of contribution described in section 522(a) by the committee; and

(2) shall provide for separate accounting for the payments received under this title.

(b) Enhanced Disclosure of Information on Donors.—(1) MANDATORY IDENTIFICATION OF INDIVIDUALS MAKING QUALIFIED SMALL DOLLAR CONTRIBUTIONS.—Each authorized committee of a participating candidate under this title shall, in accordance with section 304(b)(3)(A), include in the reports the committee submits under section 304 the identification of each person who makes a qualified small dollar contribution to the committee.

(2) MANDATORY DISCLOSURE THROUGH INTERNET.—Each authorized committee of a participating candidate under this title shall ensure that all information reported to the Commission under this Act with respect to contributions and expenditures of the committee is available to the public on the internet (whether through a site established for purposes of this subsection, a hyperlink on another public site of the committee, or a hyperlink on a report filed electronically with the Commission) in a searchable, sortable, and downloadable manner.

“SEC. 523. PREVENTING UNNECESSARY SPENDING OF PUBLIC FUNDS.

(a) MANDATORY SPENDING OF AVAILABLE PRIVILEGED FUNDS.—An authorized committee of a candidate certified as a participating candidate under this title may not make any expenditure of any payments received under this title in any amount that is more than an expenditure in an equivalent amount of funds received by the committee which are described in paragraphs (1), (3), (4), (5), and (6) of section 522(a).

(b) LIMITATION.—Subsection (a) applies to an authorized committee only to the extent that the funds referred to in such subsection are available to the committee at the time the committee makes an expenditure of a payment received under this title.

“SEC. 535. AMOUNT.

(a) In General.—Subject to subsection (b), the amount of the additional payment made to an eligible candidate under this subtitle shall be an amount equal to 50 percent of—

(1) the amount of the payment made to the candidate under section 501(b) with respect to the qualified small dollar contributions which the candidate has received during the enhanced support qualifying period (as included in the request submitted by the candidate under section 532(a)(4)); or

(2) in the case of a candidate who is not eligible to receive a payment under section 501(b) with respect to such qualified small dollar contributions because the candidate has reached the limit of the aggregate amount of payments made to a participating candidate under subsection (a) for the election cycle under section 501(c), the amount of the payment which would have been made to the candidate under section 501(b) for the election cycle under section 501(c).

(b) LIMIT.—The amount of the additional payment determined under subsection (a) with respect to a candidate may not exceed $500,000.

(2) No Effect on Aggregate Limit.—The amount of the additional payment made to a candidate under this subtitle shall not be included in determining the aggregate amount of payments made to a participating candidate with respect to an election cycle under section 501(c).

“SEC. 534. WAIVER OF AUTHORITY TO RETAIN PORTION OF UNSPENT FUNDS AFTER ELECTION.

Notwithstanding section 524(a)(2), a candidate who receives an additional payment under this subtitle with respect to an election is credited with a portion of such payment, but not more than the amount of the additional payment made to such candidate under this subtitle with respect to such qualified small dollar contributions because the candidate has reached the limit of the aggregate amount of payments made to a participating candidate under subsection (a) for the election cycle under section 501(c).
the review under subparagraph (A), the Comptroller General determines is appropriate.

(B) REVIEW OF PAYMENT LEVELS.—Whether the total amount of funds anticipated to be raised by participating candidates (including through qualified small dollar contributions) and payments under this title are sufficient for the purpose of making such payments. If the Comptroller General determines that there are insufficient moneys in the Fund to make payments to participating candidates under this title, moneys shall not be made available from any other source for the purpose of making such payments.

(C) RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ADJUSTMENT OF AMOUNTS.—Based on the review conducted under subparagraph (A), the Comptroller General may recommend to Congress adjustments of the following amounts:

(A) The number and value of qualified small dollar contributions a candidate is required to obtain under section 512(a) to be eligible for certification as a participating candidate.

(B) The maximum amount of payments a candidate may receive under this title.

(1) containing an analysis of the review conducted under subsection (a), including a detailed statement of Comptroller General's findings, conclusions, and recommendations based on such review, including any recommendations for adjustments of amounts described in subsection (a)(3); and

(2) documenting, evaluating, and making recommendations relating to the administrative implementation and enforcement of the provisions of this title.

(3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.

SEC. 543. ADMINISTRATION BY COMMISSION.

The Commission shall prescribe regulations to carry out the purposes of this title, including regulations for—

(A) verifying the amount of qualified small dollar contributions with respect to a candidate;

(B) ensuring the proper use of raised qualified small dollar contributions;

(C) ensuring the proper use of raised qualified small dollar contributions; and

(D) monitoring the use of allocations from the Freedom From Influence Fund established under section 542(C)(2) to participating candidates.

The Commission in carrying out this title shall be subject to review by the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia upon petition filed in the Court not later than 30 days after the Commission takes the action for which the review is sought.

(2) PROCEEDURES.—The provisions of chapter 7 of title 5, United States Code, apply to judicial review under this section.

SEC. 546. INDEXING OF AMOUNTS.

(a) INDEXING.—In any calendar year after 2024, the Commission shall—

(1) increase each amount described in subsection (b) in the same manner as such section applies to the limitations established under subsections (a)(1), (a)(2), and (a)(3), and except that for purposes of applying such section to the amounts described in subsection (b), the ‘base period’ shall be 2026.

(b) AMOUNTS DESCRIBED.—The amounts described in this subsection are as follows:

(1) the amount referred to in section 502(b)(1) (relating to the minimum amount of qualified small dollar contributions included in a request for payment).

(2) the amount referred to in section 504(a)(1) (relating to the amount of a qualified small dollar contribution).

(3) the amount referred to in section 512(a)(2) (relating to the total dollar amount of qualified small dollar contributions).

(4) the amount referred to in section 512(a)(5) (relating to the aggregate amount of contributions a participating candidate may accept from any individual with respect to an election).

(5) the amount referred to in section 521(b)(1)(A) (relating to the amount of personal funds that may be used by a candidate who is certified as a participating candidate).

(6) the amounts referred to in section 524(a)(2) (relating to the amount of unspent small dollar contributions a candidate is required to obtain under section 512(a) to be eligible for certification as a participating candidate).
funds a candidate may retain for use in the next election cycle).

“(7) The amount referred to in section 532(a)(3) (relating to the total dollar amount of qualified small dollar contributions for a candidate seeking an additional payment under subtitle D).

“(8) The amount referred to in section 533(b) (relating to the amount on the amount of an additional payment made to a candidate under subtitle D).

“SEC. 547. ELECTION CYCLE DEFINED.

“In this title, the term ‘election cycle’ means—

“(A) with respect to an election for a congressional candidate—

“(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ‘congressional candidate’ and inserting ‘an office who is a participating candidate under title V’;

“(2) subparagraph (A), by striking ‘end of the election’ and inserting ‘end of the runoff election’;

“(B) with respect to an election for a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress who is a participating candidate under title V, the date of the runoff election; and

“(C) with respect to a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress who is a participating candidate under title V, the date of the runoff election.

“SEC. 5112. CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES

“(a) AUTHORIZING CONTRIBUTIONS ONLY FROM SEPARATE ACCOUNTS CONSISTING OF QUALIFIED SMALL DOLLAR CONTRIBUTIONS.—Section 315(a) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 3015(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(10) In the case of a multicandidate political committee or any political committee of a political party which may make a contribution to a candidate who is a participating candidate under title V with respect to an election only if the contribution is paid from a separate, segregated account of the committee which consists solely of contributions which meet the following requirements:

“(A) Each such contribution is in an amount which, when added to the amounts of contributions (or the amount of a qualified small dollar contribution under section 504(a)(1)) with respect to the election involved—

“(B) Each such contribution is made by an individual who is not otherwise prohibited from making a contribution under this Act.

“(C) The individual who makes the contribution does not make contributions to the committee during the year in an aggregate amount that exceeds the limit described in section 504(a)(1).

“(b) PERMITTING UNLIMITED COORDINATED EXPENDITURES FROM SMALL DOLLAR SOURCES BY MULTICANDIDATE AND POLITICAL PARTY COMMITTEES ON BEHALF OF PARTICIPATING CANDIDATES.

“(1) I N GENERAL.—Chapter 97 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“3015. Special assessments for Freedom From Influence Fund

“(i) In general.—Chapter 97 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“9706. Special assessments for Freedom From Influence Fund

“(a) ASSESSMENTS.

“(1) CIVIL PENALTIES.—Any entity of the Federal Government which is authorized under any law, rule, or regulation to impose a civil penalty, shall assess on each person, other than a natural person who is not a corporate officer or person with equivalent authority in any other organization, an amount equal to 4.75 percent of the amount of the penalty.

“(2) ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTIES.—Any entity of the Federal Government which is authorized under any law, rule, or regulation to impose an administrative penalty shall assess on each person, other than a natural person who is not a corporate officer or person with equivalent authority in any other organization, an amount equal to 4.75 percent of the amount of the penalty.

“(3) SETTLEMENTS.—In a manner consistent with section 3302(b) of this title, Chapter 97 shall be transferred from the General Fund of the Treasury to the Freedom From Influence Fund under section 541 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 an amount equal to the amount of the assessments collected under this section.

“(4) CROSS REFERENCE.—For application of special assessments for the Freedom From Influence Fund with respect to certain penalties under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, see section 6761 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

“(b) MANNER OF COLLECTION.—An amount assessed under subsection (a) shall be collected in the manner in which fines are collected in criminal cases.

“(c) TRANSFERS.—In a manner consistent with section 3302(b) of this title, there shall be transferred from the General Fund of the Treasury to the Freedom From Influence Fund section 541 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 an amount equal to the amount of the assessments collected under this section.

“(d) APPLICATION OF CERTAIN RULES.—Except as provided in subsection (e), the additional
mission shall promulgate such regulations as subsection (a) is submitted to Congress.

part by the deadline set forth in subsection (b).

gated the final regulations necessary to carry the Federal Election Commission has promul-
ceeding year, without regard to whether or not to elections occurring during 2028 or any suc-

chapter for chapter 68 of such Code is amended —

apply for purposes of this subsection.''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATES.—
(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
section 2021, and inserting all that follows through ''$250'' and inserting 'matchable contributions'.

Section 9033(b) of such Code is amended—

Section 5202. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR MATCHING PAYMENTS.

(a) AMOUNT OF AGGREGATE CONTRIBUTIONS PER STATE; DISREGARDING OF AMOUNTS CON-

The amount equal to 600 percent of the amount of each matchable contribution (disregarding any amount of contributions from any person to the extent that the total of the amounts contributed by such person for the election exceeds $200)'';

(B) by striking ''authorized committees'' and in-

Section 9034(b) of such Code is amended by striking ''The total'' and inserting the following:

(U) by striking ''$5,000'' and inserting ''$25,000'';

(C) such contribution was a direct contribu-

(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this sub-

(B) APPLICABLE PERIOD.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term 'applicable period' means a 4-year period beginning with the first day following the date of the general election for the office of President and ending on the day of the next such general election.

(C) ROUNDING.—If any amount as adjusted under subparagraph (1) is not a multiple of $10,000, such amount shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of $10,000.

SEC. 5202. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR MATCHING PAYMENTS.

(a) AMOUNT OF AGGREGATE CONTRIBUTIONS PER STATE; DISREGARDING OF AMOUNTS CON-

(B) MATCHABLE CONTRIBUTION DEFINED.—For purposes of this section and section 9033(b)—

(1) MATCHABLE CONTRIBUTION.—The term 'matchable contribution' means, with respect to the nomination for election to the office of President of the United States, a contribution by an individual to a candidate or an authorized committee of a candidate with respect to which the candidate has certified in writing that—

(A) the individual making such contribution has not made aggregate contributions (including such matchable contribution) to such candidate and the authorized committees of such candi-

(B) such candidate and the authorized com-

(c) T ERMINATION.—The Commission shall update

(b) U PDATE.—The Commission shall update

(1) INCREASE AND MODIFICATION.—Section 9032(b) of such Code is amended by inserting 'matchable contributions' and inserting 'matchable contributions'.

(b) MODIFICATION OF PAYMENT LIMITATION.—

Section 9034(b) of such Code is amended by inserting the following:

(U) by striking ''$250,000,000''; and

(B) by striking ''shall not exceed'' and all that follows and inserting ''shall not exceed $250,000,000''; and

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Section 9032(4) of such Code is amended by striking ''section 9034(a)'' and inserting ''section 9034'.

(B) Section 9032(b)(3) of such Code is amended by striking ''matching contributions'' and in-

(C) ROUNDING.—If any amount as adjusted under subparagraph (1) is not a multiple of $10,000, such amount shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of $10,000.

5) the candidate is nominated by a political party for election to the office of President, and the candidate will apply and accept payments with respect to the general election for such office in accordance with chapter 95.''

Subtitle C—Presidential Elections

SEC. 5201. INCREASE IN AND MODIFICATIONS TO PAYING-PARTY LIMITS.

(a) INCREASE AND MODIFICATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The first sentence of section 9034(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) by striking ''the amount equal to the amount of each contribution'' and inserting ''an

amount determined under subsection (a) shall be treated for purposes of this title in the same manner as the covered penalty to which such additional amount relates.

The Secretary shall deposit any addi-

tional amount under subsection (a) in the Gen-

eral Fund of the Treasury and shall transfer from such Special Account to the Freedom From Influence Fund established under section 541 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 an amount equal to the amounts so deposited (and, notwithstanding subsection (a), such additional amount shall not be the basis for any deposit, transfer, credit, appropriation, or any other payment, to any other trust fund or account).

Rules relating to the rules of section 9001 shall apply for purposes of this subsection.''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sub-

chapters for chapter 68 of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

'SUBCHAPTER D—SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS FOR FREEDOM FROM INFLUENCE FUND'.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATES.—
(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
section (2), the amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to convictions, agree-

ments, and penalties which occur on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) ASSESSMENTS RELATING TO CERTAIN PEN-
ALTIES UNDER THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986.—The amendments made by subsection (c) shall apply with respect to assessments assessed after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5115. STUDY AND REPORT ON SMALL DOL-
LAR FINANCING PROGRAM.

(a) STUDY.—Not later than 2 years after the completion of the first election cycle in which the program established under title V of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as added by section 3111, is in effect, the Federal Election Commission shall—

(A) assess—

(B) IN GENERAL.—As except as otherwise provided in this part and in the amendments made by this part, this part and the amend-
ments made by this part shall apply with respect to elections occurring during 2028 or any suc-
ceeding year, without regard to whether or not the Federal Election Commission has promul-
gated the final regulations necessary to carry out this part and the amendments made by this part by the deadline set forth in subsection (b).

(b) DEADLINE FOR REGULATIONS.—Not later than 2 years after the Federal Election Com-
mission shall promulgate such regulations as may be necessary to carry out this part and the amendments made by this part.

Subtitle C—Presidential Elections

This subtitle may be cited as the 'Empower Act of 2021'.

PART I—PRIMARY ELECTIONS

SEC. 5201. INCREASE IN AND MODIFICATIONS TO PAYING-PARTY LIMITS.

(a) INCREASE AND MODIFICATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The first sentence of section 9034(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Section 9032(4) of such Code is amended by striking ''section 9034(a)'' and inserting ''section 9034'.

(B) Section 9032(b)(3) of such Code is amended by striking ''matchable contributions'' and inserting ''matchable contributions''.

(C) ROUNDING.—If any amount as adjusted under subparagraph (1) is not a multiple of $10,000, such amount shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of $10,000.

(B) by striking the period at the end of para-

section 3301(b) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 and inserting ''matchable contributions''.

This subtitle may be cited as the ‘Empower Act of 2021’.

PART I—PRIMARY ELECTIONS

SEC. 5201. INCREASE IN AND MODIFICATIONS TO PAYING-PARTY LIMITS.

(a) INCREASE AND MODIFICATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The first sentence of section 9034(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) by striking ''$25,000''; and

(B) by striking ''shall not exceed'' and all that follows and inserting ''shall not exceed $250,000,000''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(2) IN GENERAL.—The total contribution to the candidate or committee by another person; or

(ii) received by the candidate or committee with the knowledge that the contribution was made at the request, suggestion, or recommendation of another person.

(B) OTHER DEFINITIONS.—In subparagraph (A)—

(i) the term 'person' does not include an in-

ividual (other than an individual described in section 304(i)(7) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended, of a political party, or any political committee which is not a separate segregated fund described in section 316(b) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 and which does not make contributions or independent expenditures, does not en-
gage in lobbying activity under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.), and is not established by, controlled by, or af-
filiated with a registered lobbyist under such Act, an agent of a registered lobbyist under such Act, or an organization which retains or em-

ployed a registered lobbyist under such Act; and

(ii) a contribution is not 'made at the re-

quest, suggestion, or recommendation of another person' solely on the grounds that the contribu-

tion is made in conjunction with information provided to the individual making the contribution by any person, so long as the candidate or author-

ized committee does not know the identity of the person who provided the information to such in-

dividual.''.

(6) FEDERAL ELECTION FUND.—The term 'Federal Election Fund' is re-

defined to mean—

the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, and inserting 'matchable contributions'.

(B) by striking ''shall not exceed'' and all that follows and inserting ''shall not exceed $250,000,000''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(2) INCLUSION.—(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any applicable period beginning after 2029, the dollar amount as adjusted under subparagraph (1) shall be increased by an amount equal to—

"(i) such dollar amount, multiplied by

"(ii) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year fol-

lowing the year which such applicable period begins, determined by substituting 'calendar year 2028' for 'calendar year 1992' in subpara-

graph (B) thereof;

"(B) APPLICABLE PERIOD.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term 'applicable period' means a 4-year period beginning with the first day following the date of the general election for the office of President and ending on the day of the next such general election.

(C) ROUNDING.—If any amount as adjusted under subparagraph (1) is not a multiple of $10,000, such amount shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of $10,000.

SEC. 5202. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR MATCHING PAYMENTS.

(a) AMOUNT OF AGGREGATE CONTRIBUTIONS PER STATE; DISREGARDING OF AMOUNTS CON-

(B) by striking ''authorized committees'' and in-

(A) by striking ''matching contributions'' and inser-

Above the fold
(d) PROHIBITION ON JOINT FUNDRAISING COMMITTEES.—Section 9033(b) of such Code, as amended by subsection (c), is amended—

(1) by striking “and” at the end of paragraph (4) and inserting “and”;

(2) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (5) and inserting “; and”;

(3) inserting after paragraph (5) the following new paragraph:

“(6) the candidate will not establish a joint fundraising committee with a political committee other than the authorized committee of the candidate, except that candidate established a joint fundraising committee with respect to a prior election for which the candidate was not eligible to receive payments under section 9037 and the candidate does not terminate the committee, the candidate shall not be considered to be in violation of this paragraph so long as joint fundraising activities do not involve the contributions or any disbursements during the election cycle for which the candidate is eligible to receive payments under such section.”

SEC. 5203. DEELAP OF EXPENDITURE LIMITATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 9035 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended to read as follows:

“(a) PERSONAL EXPENDITURE LIMITATION.—

No candidate shall knowingly make expenditures from his personal funds, or the personal funds of his immediate family, in connection with his campaign for nomination for election to the office of President in excess of, in the aggregate, $50,000.”

(b) PROVISIONAL AMENDMENT.—Paragraph (1) of section 9033(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended to read as follows:

“(1) the candidate will comply with the personal expenditure limitation under section 9035.”

SEC. 5204. PERIOD OF AVAILABILITY OF MATCHING FUNDS.

Section 9032(e)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “the beginning of the calendar year in which a general election for the office of President of the United States will be held” and inserting “the date that is 6 months prior to the date of the earliest State primary election”.

SEC. 5205. EXAMINATION AND AUDITS OF MATCHABLE CONTRIBUTIONS.

Section 9038(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting “and matchable contributions” after “qualified campaign expenses”.

SEC. 5206. MODIFICATION TO LIMITATION ON CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES.

Section 315(a)(6) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (32 U.S.C. 30116(a)(6)) is amended by striking “calendar year” and inserting “four-year election cycle”.

SEC. 5207. USE OF FREEDOM FROM INFLUENCE FUND AS SOURCE OF PAYMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 96 of subtitle H of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 9043. USE OF FREEDOM FROM INFLUENCE FUND AS SOURCE OF PAYMENTS.

“(a) In general.—In addition to any other provision of this chapter, effective with respect to the Presidential election held in 2028 and each succeeding Presidential election, all payments made to candidates under this chapter shall be made from the Freedom From Influence Fund established under section 541 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (hereafter in this section referred to as the ‘Fund’).

“(b) MANDATORY REDUCTION OF PAYMENTS IN CASE OF INSUFFICIENT AMOUNTS IN FUND.—

(1) ADVANCE AUDITS BY COMMISSION.—Not later than 90 days before the first day of each Presidential election cycle (beginning with the cycle for the election held in 2028), the Commission shall—

“(A) audit the Fund to determine whether, after first making payments to participating candidates under title V of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 and then making payments to States under the My Voice Voucher Program under the Government By the People Program under section 9006 of such Code and the Fund will be sufficient to make payments to candidates under this chapter in the amounts provided under this chapter during such election cycle; and

“(B) submit a report to Congress describing the results of the audit.

“(2) REDUCTIONS IN AMOUNT OF PAYMENTS.—

(A) AUTOMATIC REDUCTION ON PRO RATA BASIS.—If, on the basis of the audit described in paragraph (1), the Commission determines that the amount anticipated to be available in the Fund under a Presidential election cycle involves a portion of such payments, the Commission shall reduce such amounts to a level below the amount anticipated to be available in the Fund.

(B) REDUCTIONS IN AMOUNT OF PAYMENTS BASED ON AVAILABLE FUNDS.—If, on the basis of the audit described in paragraph (1), the Commission determines that the amount anticipated to be available in the Fund under a Presidential election cycle does not involve any portion thereof, the amount that such payments are available, the Commission may make a payment on a pro rata basis to each such candidate with respect to the election cycle in the amount by which such candidate’s payments were reduced pursuant to subparagraph (A) (or any portion thereof, as the case may be).

(3) NO EFFECT ON AMOUNTS TRANSFERRED TO FROM OTHER SOURCES.—In any case in which the Commission determines that there are insufficient moneys in the Fund to make payments to candidates under this chapter, moneys shall not be made available from any other source for the purpose of making such payments.

(4) NO EFFECT ON AMOUNTS TRANSFERRED FOR PEDIATRIC RESEARCH INITIATIVE.—This section does not apply to transfers of funds under section 9008(l).

(5) PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION CYCLE DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘Presidential election cycle’ means, with respect to a Presidential election, the period beginning on the day after the date of the previous Presidential general election and ending on the date of the Presidential election.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 96 of subtitle H of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“Sec. 9043. Use of Freedom From Influence Fund as source of payments.”

PART 2—GENERAL ELECTIONS

SEC. 5211. MODIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR PUBLIC FINANCING.

Subsection (a) of section 9003 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended to read as follows:

“(a) In general.—In order to be eligible to receive any payments under section 9006, the candidate must—

(1) certify in writing that—

(A) agree to obtain and furnish to the Commission such records, books, and other information as it may request, and

(B) agree to keep and furnish to the Commission such records, books, and other information as it may request, and

(2) agree to an audit and examination by the Commission under section 9007 and to pay any amounts required to be paid under such section.

(3) PROHIBITION ON JOINT FUNDRAISING COMMITTEES.—

(A) PROHIBITION.—The candidates certified in writing that the candidates will not establish a joint fundraising committee with a political committee other than another authorized committee of the candidate.

(B) STATUS OF EXISTING COMMITTEES FOR PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS.—If a candidate established a joint fundraising committee described in subparagraph (A) with respect to a prior election for which the candidate was not eligible to receive payments under such chapter, the candidate shall not be considered to be in violation of subparagraph (A) so long as joint fundraising committee does not receive any contributions or make any disbursements with respect to the election for which the candidate is eligible to receive payments under such chapter.

SEC. 5212. REPEAL OF EXPENDITURE LIMITATIONS AND USE OF QUALIFIED CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS.

(a) USE OF QUALIFIED CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS WITHOUT EXPENDITURE LIMITS; APPLICATION OF SAME REQUIREMENTS FOR MAJOR, MINOR, AND NEW PARTIES.—Section 9003 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking subsections (b) and (c) and inserting the following:

“(b) USE OF QUALIFIED CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS FOR DEFRAY EXPENSES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In order to be eligible to receive any payments under section 9006, the candidate of a party in a Presidential election shall certify to the Commission, under penalty of perjury, that—

(A) such candidates and their authorized committees have not and will not accept any contributions to defray qualified campaign expenses other than—

(i) qualified campaign contributions, and

(ii) contributions to the extent necessary to make up any deficiency payments received out of the fund on account of the application of section 900(c), and

(B) such candidates and their authorized committees have not and will not accept any contribution to defray expenses which would be qualified campaign expenses but for subparagraph (C) of section 900(c), and

(2) TIMING OF CERTIFICATION.—The candidate shall make the certification required under this subsection at the same time the candidate makes the certification required under subsection (a)(3).

(b) DEFINITION OF QUALIFIED CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS.—Section 9002 of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(13) QUALIFIED CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS.—The term ‘qualified campaign contribution’ means, with respect to any election for the office of President of the United States, a contribution from an individual to a candidate or an authorized committee of a candidate which—

(A) does not exceed $1,000 for the election; and

(B) with respect to which the candidate has certified in writing that—

(i) the individual making such contribution has not made aggregate contributions (including such qualified contribution) to such candidate or any authorized committees of such candidate in excess of the amount described in subparagraph (A), and

(ii) such candidate and the authorized committee of such candidate will not accept any contributions from such individual (including such qualified contribution) aggregating more than
the amount described in subparagraph (A) with respect to such election.

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b) of section 9004 of such Code is amended to read as follows:—

(b) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any applicable period beginning after 2028, the $250,000,000 dollar amount in subsection (a) shall be increased by an amount equal to—

(A) such dollar amount multiplied by—

(B) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year following the year which such applicable period begins; determined by substituting ‘calendar year 2028’ for ‘calendar year 1992’ in subparagraph (B) thereof;

(2) APPLICABLE PERIOD.—For purposes of this subsection, an applicable period means the 4-year period beginning with the first day following the date of the general election for the office of President and ending on the date of the next such general election;

(3) Rounding.—If any amount as adjusted under paragraph (1) is not a multiple of $10,000, such amount shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of $10,000.

(4) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 9005(a) of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: “The Commission shall make such calculation as may be necessary to receive payments under section 9004.”

(b) MATCHABLE CONTRIBUTION.—Section 9002 of such Code, as amended by section 5122(b), is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

(14) MATCHABLE CONTRIBUTION.—The term ‘matchable contribution’ means, with respect to the election to the office of President of the United States, a contribution made by an individual to a candidate or an authorized committee of such candidate with respect to which the candidate has certified in writing that—

(A) the individual making such contribution has not made donations (including such matchable contribution) to such candidate and the authorized committees of such candidate in excess of $1,000 for the election;

(B) such candidate and the authorized committees of such candidate will not accept contributions from such individual (including such matchable contribution) aggregating more than the amount described in subparagraph (A) with respect to such election; and

(C) such contribution was a direct contribution (as defined in section 9034(c)(3)).

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Subsection (a) of section 9002(11) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: “The Commission shall take into account in determining the balance of the fund for a Presidential election year the Secretary’s best estimate of the amount of moneys which will be deposited into the fund during the year, except that the amount of the estimate may not exceed the average of the annual amounts deposited in such fund for the previous 4-year period.”

(d) IN GENERAL.—Section 315(d)(2) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30116(d)(2)) is amended in subsection (2) to read as follows:

(2) The national committee of a political party may not make any expenditure in connection with the general election campaign of any candidate for President of the United States who is affiliated with such party which exceeds $100,000,000.

(i) any expenditure made by or on behalf of a national committee of a political party and in connection with a Presidential election shall be considered to be made in connection with the general election campaign of a candidate for President of the United States who is affiliated with such party; and

(ii) any communication made by or on behalf of such party shall be considered to be made in connection with the general election campaign of a candidate for President of the United States who is affiliated with such party.

(ii) any communication made by or on behalf of a national committee of a political party serving as the principal campaign committee of a candidate for the office of President of the United States.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS RELATING TO TIMING OF COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 315(c)(1) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30116(c)(1)) is amended—

(A) in subparagraph (B), by striking ‘‘(d)’’ and inserting ‘‘(d)(2)’’; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

(3) In any calendar year after 2028—

(C) the dollar amount in subsection (d)(2) shall be increased by the percent difference determined under subparagraph (A); and

(ii) the amount so increased shall remain in effect for the calendar year

(iii) if the amount after adjustment under clause (i) is not a multiple of $100, such amount shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of $100.

(b) BASE YEAR.—Section 315(c)(2)(B) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30116(c)(2)(B)) is amended—

(A) in clause (i), by striking ‘‘(d)’’ and inserting ‘‘(d)(2)’’; and

(ii) by striking ‘‘and’’ at the end; and

(C) by adding at the end the following new clause:

(iii) for purposes of subsection (d)(2), calendar year 2027.

SEC. 3215. ESTABLISHMENT OF UNIFORM DATE FOR RELEASE OF PAYMENTS.

(a) DATE FOR PAYMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 9006(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended to read as follows:

(2) PAYMENTS FROM THE FUND.—If the Secretary of the Treasury receives a certification from the Commission under section 9005 for payment to the eligible candidates of a political party, the Secretary shall pay to such candidates out of the fund the amount certified by the Commission under section 9005 for payment:

(i) the last Friday occurring before the first Monday in September; or

(ii) 24 hours after receiving the certifications for the eligible candidates of all major political parties.

Amounts paid to any such candidates shall be under the control of such candidates.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The first sentence of section 9006(c) of such Code is amended by striking “the time of a certification by the Commission on the latter in subsection (b).” and inserting “the time of a certification by the Commission on the latter in subsection (b).”.

(b) TIME FOR CERTIFICATION.—Section 9005(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “10 days” and inserting “24 hours.”

SEC. 3216. AMOUNTS IN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN FUND.

Section 9006(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: “In making a determination of whether there are insufficient moneys in the fund for purposes of the previous sentence, the Secretary shall take into account in determining the balance of the fund for a Presidential election year the Secretary’s best estimate of the amount of moneys which will be deposited into the fund during the year, except that the amount of the estimate may not exceed the average of the annual amounts deposited in such fund for the previous 4-year period.”

SEC. 2127. USE OF GENERAL ELECTION PAYMENTS FOR GENERAL ELECTION LEGAL AND ACCOUNTING COMPLIANCE.

Section 9002(11) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: “For purposes of subparagraph (A), an expense incurred by a candidate or authorized committee for general election legal and accounting compliance purposes shall be considered to be an expense to further the election of such candidate.”

SEC. 2128. USE OF FREEDOM FROM INFLUENCE FUND AS SOURCE OF PAYMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 70 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new section:
Part 3—Effective Date

SEC. 5221. Effective Date.

(a) In General.—Except as otherwise provided, this subtitle and the amendments made by this subtitle shall apply with respect to the Presidential election cycle in which the President declares, or each succeeding Presidential election cycle, regardless of whether or not the Federal Election Commission has promulgated final regulations necessary to carry out this part, as amended, by the date set forth in subsection (b).

(b) Deadline for Regulations.—Not later than June 30, 2026, the Federal Election Commission shall promulgate such regulations as may be necessary to carry out this part and the amendments made by this title.

Subtitle D—Personal Use Services as Authorized Campaign Expenditures

SEC. 5201. Short Title; Findings; Purpose.

(a) Short Title.—This subtitle may be cited as the “Help America Run Act.”

(b) Findings.—Congress finds the following:

(1) Every American experience barriers to entry before they can consider running for office to serve their communities.

(2) Current law states that campaign funds cannot be spent on everyday expenses that would exist whether or not a candidate were running for office in order to afford food, housing, childcare, or health insurance.

(c) Purpose.—It is the purpose of this subtitle to ensure that all Americans who are otherwise qualified to serve this Nation are able to run for office, regardless of their economic status. By expanding the permissible uses of campaign funds and providing modest assurance that testing a run for office will not cost one’s livelihood, the Help America Run Act will facilitate the candidacy of representatives who more accurately reflect the experiences, challenges, and ideals of everyday Americans.

SEC. 5202. Treatment of Payments for Child Care and Other Personal Use Services as Authorized Campaign Expenditures.

(a) Personal Use Services as Authorized Campaign Expenditure.—Section 313 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30114), as amended by section 5113, shall be amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(e) Treatment of Payments for Child Care and Other Personal Use Services as Authorized Campaign Expenditures.—

“(1) Authorized Expenditures.—For purposes of subsection (a), the payment by an authorized committee of a candidate for personal use services described in paragraph (3) shall be treated as an authorized expenditure if the services are necessary to enable the participation of the candidate in campaign-connected activities.

“(2) Limitations.—

“(A) Limit on Total Amount of Payments.—

The total amount of payments made by an authorized committee of a candidate for personal use services described in paragraph (3) may not exceed the limit which is applicable under any law, rule, or regulation on the amount of payments which may be made by the committee for the salary of the candidate (without regard to whether or not the committee makes payments to the candidate for that purpose).

“(B) Corresponding Reduction in Amount of Salary Paid to Candidate.—To the extent that an authorized committee of a candidate makes payments for the salary of the candidate, any limit on the amount of such payments which is applicable under any law, rule, or regulation shall be reduced by the amount of any payment which may be made by the committee for personal use services described in paragraph (3), other than personal use services described in subparagraph (D) of such paragraph.

“(C) Exclusion of Candidates Who Are Officeholders.—Paragraph (1) does not apply with respect to an authorized committee of a candidate who is a holder of Federal office.

“(D) Personal Use Services Described.—The personal use services described in this paragraph are as follows:

“(i) Child care services.

“(ii) Elder care services.

“(iii) Services similar to the services described in subparagraph (C) of section 30114 of title 52, United States Code.

“(iv) Health insurance premiums.”

(b) Effective Date.—This Act shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

Subtitle E—Empowering Small Dollar Donations

SEC. 5401. PERMITTING POLITICAL PARTY COMMITTEES TO PROVIDE ENHANCED SUPPORT FOR CANDIDATES THROUGH USE OF SEPARATE SMALL DOLLAR ACCOUNTS.

(a) Increase in Limit on Contributions to Candidates.—Section 315(a)(2)(A) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 30116(a)(2)(A)) is amended by striking “$5,000” and inserting “$5,000 or, in the event...
case of a contribution made by a national committee of a political party from an account described in paragraph (11), exceed $10,000.”.

(b) ELIMINATION OF LIMIT ON COORDINATED EXPENDITURES.—Section 315(a)(6) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30116(d)(5)) is amended by striking “subsection (a)(9)” and inserting “subsection (a)(8) or subsection (a)(11)”.

(c) ACCOUNTS.—Section 315(a) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30116(a), as amended by section 5112(a), is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(11) An account described in this paragraph is a separate, segregated account of a national committee of a political party (including a national congressional campaign committee of a political party) consisting exclusively of contributions made during a calendar year by individuals whose aggregate contributions to the committee during the year do not exceed $200.”.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to elections held on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

Title F—Severability

SEC. 5001. SEVERABILITY.

If any provision of this title or amendment made by this title, or the application of a provision or amendment to any person or circumstance, is held to be unconstitutional, the remainder of this title and amendments made by this title, and the application of the provisions and amendment to any person or circumstance, shall not be affected by the holding invalid of such provision or amendment.

Title VI—Campaign Finance Oversight

Subtitle A—Restoring Integrity to America’s Elections

Subtitle B—Stopping Super PAC-Candidate Coordination

Subtitle C—Disposal of Contributions or Donations

Subtitle D—Recommendations to Ensure Filing of Reports Before Date of Election

Subtitle E—Severability

Subtitle A—Restoring Integrity to America’s Elections

SEC. 6001. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the “Restoring Integrity to America’s Elections Act”.

SEC. 6002. MEMBERSHIP OF FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION.

(a) REDUCTION IN NUMBER OF MEMBERS; REMOVAL OF SECRETARY OF SENATE AND CLERK OF HOUSE AS EX OFFICIO MEMBERS.—

(C) IN GENERAL.—Section 306(a)(1) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30106(a)(1)) is amended by striking the second and third sentences and inserting the following: “The Commission is composed of 5 members appointed by the President by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, of whom no more than 2 may be affiliated with the same political party. A member shall be treated as affiliated with a political party if the member was affiliated with that party as a registered voter, employee, consultant, donor, officer, or attorney, with such political party or any of its candidates or elected public officials at any time during the 5-year period ending on the date on which such individual is nominated to be a member of the Commission. A majority of the number of members of the Commission who are serving at the time shall constitute a quorum.”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS RELATING TO REDUCTION IN NUMBER OF MEMBERS.—(A) Section 306(c) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30106(c)) is amended by striking the first sentence and all that follows and inserting the following: “, except that an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Commission who are serving at the time shall be required in order for the Commission to take any action in accordance with paragraphs (6), (7), (8), or (9) of section 307(a) or with chapter 95 or chapter 96 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. A member of the Commission may not delegate to any person his or her vote or any decisionmaking authority or duty vested in the Commission by the provisions of this Act.”

(3) ELECTIONS TO FILL VACANCIES.—(A) Initial Elections.—Each member of the Commission shall serve for a single term of 6 years.

(B) Subsequent Appointments.—Any individual who is appointed to succeed the member whose term is expiring or who is vacating in the membership of the Commission (as the case may be), the Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel shall recommend to the President at least one but not more than 3 individuals for nomination for appointment as a member of the Commission.

(2) TERMS OF SERVICE.—Section 306(a)(2) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30106(a)(2)) is amended to read as follows:

“(2) TERMS OF SERVICE.—(A) INITIAL APPOINTMENT.—Of the members of the Commission shall serve for a single term of 6 years.

(B) SPECIAL RULE FOR INITIAL APPOINTMENTS.—Of the members first appointed to serve terms that begin January 2022, the President shall designate 2 to serve for a 3-year term.

(C) NO REAPPOINTMENT PERMITTED.—An individual who served a term as a member of the Commission may not serve for an additional term, except that—

(i) an individual who served a 3-year term under subparagraph (B) may also be appointed to serve a 6-year term under subparagraph (A); and

(ii) for purposes of this subparagraph, an individual who is appointed to fill a vacancy under subparagraph (D) shall not be considered to have served a term if the portion of the unexpired term the individual fills is less than 50 percent of the period of the term.

(D) VACANCY.—Any vacancy occurring in the membership of the Commission shall be filled in the same manner as in the case of the original appointment. Except as provided in subparagraph (C), an individual appointed to fill a vacancy occurring other than by the expiration of a term of office shall be appointed only for the unexpired term of the member he or she succeeds.

(E) LIMITATION ON SERVICE AFTER EXPIRATION OF TERM.—Any member of the Commission may not serve for an additional term after the expiration of the member’s term for an additional period, but only until the earlier of—

(a) the date on which the member’s successor has taken office as a member of the Commission; or

(b) the expiration of the 1-year period that begins on the last day of the member’s term.

(C) QUALIFICATIONS.—Section 306(a)(3) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30106(a)(3)) is amended to read as follows:

“(3) QUALIFICATIONS.—(A) In General.—The President may select an individual for service as a member of the Commission if the individual has experience in election law and has a demonstrated record of integrity, impartiality, and good judgment.

(B) ASSISTANCE OF BLUE RIBBON ADVISORY PANEL.—(i) In General.—Prior to the regularly scheduled expiration of the term of a member of the Commission and upon the occurrence of a vacancy in the membership of the Commission pursuant to the expiration of a term, the President shall convene a Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel that includes individuals representing each major political party and individuals who are independent of a political party and that consists of an odd number of individuals selected by the President from retired Federal judges, former law enforcement officials, or individuals with experience in election law, except that the President may not select any individual to serve on the panel who holds any public office at the time of selection. The President shall also make reasonable efforts to encourage racial, ethnic, and gender diversity on the panel.

(ii) RECOMMENDATIONS.—With respect to each member of the Commission whose term is expiring or who is vacating in the membership of the Commission (as the case may be), the Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel shall recommend to the President at least one but not more than 3 individuals for nomination for appointment as a member of the Commission.

(3) PUBLICATION.—At the time the President submits the nominations for individuals for nomination for appointment as members of the Commission, the President shall publish the Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel’s recommendations for such nominations.

(4) EXEMPTION FROM FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT.—The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) does not apply to a Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel convened under this subparagraph.

(C) PROHIBITING ENGAGEMENT WITH OTHER BUSINESS OR EMPLOYMENT DURING SERVICE.—A member of the Commission shall not engage in any other business, vocation, or employment. Any individual who is engaging in any other business, vocation, or employment at the time of his or her appointment to the Commission shall terminate or liquidate such activity no later than 90 days after such appointment.”.

SEC. 6003. ASSIGNMENT OF POWERS TO CHAIR OF FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION.

(a) APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR BY PRESIDENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 306(a)(5) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30106(a)(5)) is amended to read as follows:

“(5) CHAIR.—(A) INITIAL APPOINTMENT.—Of the members first appointed to serve terms that begin January 2022, one such member (as designated by the President at the time the President submits nominations to the Senate) shall serve as Chair of the Federal Election Commission.

(B) SUBSEQUENT APPOINTMENTS.—Any individual who is appointed to succeed the member...
who serves as Chair of the Commission for the term beginning in January 2022 (as well as any appropriate law enforcement authorities; and

(3) PERMITTING COMMISSION TO EXERCISE OTHER POWERS.—The Commission, by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members who are serving at the time, may at any time upon the request of the Chair described in paragraph (1)(B)."

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 309(a)(2) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30109(a)(2)) is amended by striking “through its chairman or vice chairman” and inserting “through the Chair”.

(b) POWERS.—

(1) ASSIGNMENT OF CERTAIN POWERS TO CHAIR AND COMMISSION.—Section 307(a) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30107(a)) is amended as follows:

“(a) DISTRIBUTION OF POWERS BETWEEN CHAIR AND COMMISSION.—

(1) POWERS ASSIGNED TO CHAIR.—”(A) ADMINISTRATIVE POWERS.—The Chair of the Commission shall have the power—

(i) to appoint and remove the staff director of the Commission;

(ii) to provide the assistance (including personnel and facilities) of other agencies and departments of the United States, whose heads may make such assistance available to the Commission upon reimbursement;

(iii) to prepare and establish the budget of the Commission and to make budget requests to the President, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, and Congress.

(B) OTHER POWERS.—The Chair of the Commission shall have the power—

(i) to administer oaths or affirmations;

(ii) to require by subpoena, signed by the Chair, the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of all documentary evidence relating to the execution of its duties;

(iii) to order testimony to be taken by deposition before any person who is designated by the Chair, and order the production of evidence in the same manner as allowed by law; and

(iv) to pay witnesses the same fees and mileage as are paid in like circumstances in the courts of the United States.

(2) POWERS ASSIGNED TO COMMISSION.—The Commission shall have the power—

“A. to initiate (through civil actions for injunctive, declaratory, or other appropriate relief), defend (in the case of any civil action brought in an administrative proceeding), and order the production of evidence in the name of the Commission to enforce the provisions of this Act and chapter 95 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, through its general counsel;

(B) to render advisory opinions under section 308 of the Act;

(C) to develop such prescribed forms and to make, amend, and repeal such rules, pursuant to the provisions of chapter 5 of title 5, United States Code, as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act and chapter 95 and chapter 96 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986;

(D) to conduct investigations and hearings expedite the resolution of controversy, and to report apparent violations to the appropriate law enforcement authorities; and

(E) to transmit to the President and Congress not later than June 1 of each year a report which states in detail the activities of the Commission in carrying out its duties under this Act, including the recommendations for any legislative or other action the Commission considers appropriate.

(3) PERMITTING COMMISSION TO EXERCISE OTHER POWERS.—The Commission, by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members who are serving at the time, may at any time upon the request of the Chair described in paragraph (1)(B)."

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS RELATING TO PERSONNEL AUTHORITY.—Section 306(f) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30106(f)) is amended by striking the first sentence of paragraph (1) to read as follows: “The Commission shall have a staff director who shall be appointed by the Chair in consultation with the other members and a general counsel who shall be appointed by the Chair with the concurrence of at least two other members.”

(b) in paragraph (2), by striking “With the approval of the Chair” and inserting “With the approval of the Chair of the Commission”;

(c) by striking paragraph (3).

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENT RELATING TO BUDGET SUBMISSION.—Section 307(d)(1) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30107(d)(1)) is amended by striking “the Commission submits any budget” and inserting “the Chair of the Commission”.

(4) OTHER CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 306(c) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30106(c)) is amended by striking “All decisions” and inserting “All decisions of the Commission”.

(5) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—The heading of section 307 of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30107) is amended by striking “THE CHAIR AND THE COMMISSION” and inserting “THE CHAIR OF THE COMMISSION”.

(a) STANDARD FOR INITIATING INVESTIGATIONS AND DETERMINING WHETHER VIOLATIONS HAVE OCCURRED.—

(1) REVISION OF STANDARDS.—Section 309(a) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30109(a)) is amended by striking paragraphs (2) and (3) and inserting the following:

“(2A) upon receiving a complaint filed with the Commission under paragraph (1) or upon the basis of information ascertained by the Commission in the normal course of its investigation or otherwise, shall make a determination as to whether or not there is reason to believe that a person has committed, or is about to commit, a violation of this Act or chapter 95 or chapter 96 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and as to whether or not the Commission should either initiate an investigation of the matter or that the complaint should be dismissed. The general counsel shall promptly provide notification to the Commission of such determination and the reasons therefore, together with any written report of the investigation or other information used to support such determination, which may include a field investigation or audit, in accordance with the provisions of this section. The general counsel shall provide such notification to the Commission and the Executive Director of the Internal Revenue Service. The Commission shall, in the event of a vacancy in the position of Chair, or in the event of a vacancy in the position of the Chair in the absence or disability of the Chair, the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of all documentary evidence relating to the execution of its duties; and

(b) ADVISORY OPINIONS.—

(1) To provide the respondent with an opportunity to submit a brief under subparagraph (A); and

(2) promptly submit such brief to the Commission for consideration.

(2) At the time the general counsel submits to the Commission the recommendation relating to subparagraph (A), the general counsel shall simultaneously notify the Commission of such recommendation and the reasons therefore, shall provide the respondent with an opportunity to submit a brief within 30 days of the date of the notification, which may include a field investigation or audit, in accordance with the provisions of this section. The general counsel shall provide such notification to the Commission and the Executive Director of the Internal Revenue Service. The Commission shall, in the event of a vacancy in the position of Chair, or in the event of a vacancy in the position of the Chair in the absence or disability of the Chair, the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of all documentary evidence relating to the execution of its duties; and

(3) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—The heading of section 307 of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30107) is amended by striking “THE CHAIR AND THE COMMISSION” and inserting “THE CHAIR OF THE COMMISSION”.

(4) NOT LATER THAN 30 DAYS AFTER THE GENERAL COUNSEL SUBMITS THE RECOMMENDATION TO THE COMMISSION UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (A), THE GENERAL COUNSEL SHALL PROMPTLY SUBMIT SUCH BRIEF TO THE COMMISSION UPON REQUEST.

(b) REVISION OF STANDARD FOR REVIEW OF DISMISSAL OF COMPLAINT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 309(a)(8) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30109(a)(8)) is amended to read as follows:

“(8) Any party aggrieved by an order of the Commission dismissing a complaint filed by such party may file a petition with the United States District Court for the District of Columbia. Any petition under this subparagraph shall be filed within 60 days after the date on which the party received notice of the dismissal of the complaint.

(2) IN ANY PROCEEDING UNDER THIS SUBPARAGRAPH, THE COURT SHALL DETERMINE WHETHER THE COMMISSION DISMISSAL OF THE COMPLAINT WAS PROPER IN LIGHT OF THE FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE CASE, INCLUDING WHETHER THE COMPLAINT WAS FILED IN BAD FAITH OR FOR PURPOSES OF HARASSMENT OR MALICIOUSLY, AND WHETHER THE COMMISSION DISMISSAL WAS REQUIRED BY LAW.

(3) In any proceeding under this subparagraph, the court shall determine—

(a) whether the complaint was filed in bad faith or for purposes of harassment or maliciously; and

(b) whether the court shall treat the claim as if it were brought in the court of original jurisdiction.
any claim or defense by the Commission of pros- 
ecutorial discretion as a basis for dismissing the 
complaint.

(3) Any party who has filed a complaint with 
the Commission who is aggrieved by a 
failure of the Commission, within one year 
after the filing of the complaint, to either 
dismiss the complaint or to find reason to belie 
verbatim on the grounds that the person or the 
person's position, so long as there is no 
suggestion of, a candidate, an authorized com-
mittee of a candidate, or with any agent of the can-
didate or committee, solely 
controlled by any political party, political com-
mittee, or candidate; or

publication, unless such facilities are owned or 
controlled by any political party, political com-
mittee, or candidate; or

communication (including a covered communication 
described in subsection (d)) shall not be treated as 
a coordinated expenditure under this sub-
section.

(A) The communication appears in a news story, 
commentary, or editorial distributed through 
the facilities of any broadcasting sta-
tion, newspaper, magazine, or other periodical 
publishation, unless such facilities are owned or 
controlled by any political party, political com-
mittee, or candidate; or

(B) The communication constitutes a can-
didate debate or forum conducted pursuant to 
regulations adopted by the Commission pursu-
antly, and the person or the person's 
position, so long as there is no 
suggestion of, a candidate, an authorized com-
mittee of a candidate, or with any agent of the can-
didate or committee, solely 
controlled by any political party, political com-
mittee, or candidate; or

publication, unless such facilities are owned or 
controlled by any political party, political com-
mittee, or candidate; or

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didate debate or forum conducted pursuant to 
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antly, and the person or the person's 
position, so long as there is no 
suggestion of, a candidate, an authorized com-
mittee of a candidate, or with any agent of the can-
didate or committee, solely 
controlled by any political party, political com-
mittee, or candidate; or

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didate debate or forum conducted pursuant to 
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antly, and the person or the person's 
position, so long as there is no 
suggestion of, a candidate, an authorized com-
mittee of a candidate, or with any agent of the can-
didate or committee, solely 
controlled by any political party, political com-
mittee, or candidate; or

publication, unless such facilities are owned or 
controlled by any political party, political com-
mittee, or candidate; or

communication (including a covered communication 
described in subsection (d)) shall not be treated as 
a coordinated expenditure under this sub-
section.

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commentary, or editorial distributed through 
the facilities of any broadcasting sta-
tion, newspaper, magazine, or other periodical 
publishation, unless such facilities are owned or 
controlled by any political party, political com-
mittee, or candidate; or

(B) The communication constitutes a can-
didate debate or forum conducted pursuant to 
regulations adopted by the Commission pursu-
antly, and the person or the person's 
position, so long as there is no 
suggestion of, a candidate, an authorized com-
mittee of a candidate, or with any agent of the can-
didate or committee, solely 
controlled by any political party, political com-
mittee, or candidate; or

publication, unless such facilities are owned or 
controlled by any political party, political com-
mittee, or candidate; or

communication (including a covered communication 
described in subsection (d)) shall not be treated as 
a coordinated expenditure under this sub-
section.
“(c) PAYMENTS BY COORDINATED SPENDERS FOR COVERED COMMUNICATIONS.—

“(1) PAYMENTS MADE IN COOPERATION, CONSENT, OR CONCERT WITH CANDIDATES.—For purposes of section 301(c)(4)(A), if a person who makes a payment for a covered communication, as defined in subsection (d), is a coordinated spender under paragraph (2) with respect to the candidate as described in subsection (d)(1), the payment for the covered communication is made in cooperation, consultation, or concert with the candidate.

“(2) COORDINATED SPENDER DEFINED.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘coordinated spender’ means, with respect to a candidate or committee of a candidate, a person (other than a political committee of a political party) for which any of the following applies:

“(A) During the 4-year period ending on the date on which the person makes the payment, the person was directly or indirectly formed or established by or at the request or suggestion of, or with the encouragement of, the candidate (including an individual who later becomes a candidate) or committee of the candidate or committee, including with the approval of the candidate committee or agents of the candidate or committee.

“(B) The candidate or committee or any agent of the candidate or committee solicits contributions for payment of any amount, at a fundraising event, or engages in other fundraising activity on the person’s behalf during the election cycle, including by providing to the person names or lists of donors or other lists to be used by the person in engaging in fundraising activity, regardless of whether the person pays fair market value for the names or lists provided.

“(C) The person is established, directed, or controlled by a person who is an employee of the office of the candidate at any time on which the person makes the payment, has been employed or retained as a political consultant, or has been directly or indirectly formed or established by, or controlled by, or has held a formal position with the candidate or committee, including with the approval of the candidate or committee or agents of the candidate or committee.

“(D) The person has retained the professional services of any person who, during the 4-year period ending on the date on which the person makes the payment, has been employed or retained as a political consultant, or has been directly or indirectly formed or established by, or controlled by, or has held a formal position with the candidate or committee, or for purposes of this subparagraph, the term ‘professional services’ includes any services in support of the candidate or committee, including with the approval of the candidate or committee or agents of the candidate or committee.

“(E) The person is an entity, or has an arrangement with an entity, for which any of the following applies:

“(i) The person was directly or indirectly formed or established by or at the request or suggestion of, or with the encouragement of, the candidate (including an individual who later becomes a candidate) or committee of the candidate or committee, including with the approval of the candidate committee or agents of the candidate or committee.

“(ii) The person is a political committee of a political party or a candidate for election for State or local office.

“(iii) The person is a registered lobbyist under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995, before the date on which such individual becomes such a registered lobbyist.

“(2) DETERMINATION OF AMOUNT.—Any person who knowingly and willfully commits a violation of this Act by making a contribution which consists of a payment for a coordinated expenditure shall be fined an amount equal to the greater of—

“(A) in the case of a person who makes a contribution which consists of a payment for a coordinated expenditure, in an amount exceeding the applicable contribution limit under this Act, 300 percent of the amount by which the amount of the payment made by the person exceeds such applicable contribution limit; or

“(B) in the case of a person who is prohibited under this Act from making a contribution in any amount, 300 percent of the amount of the payment made by the person for the coordinated expenditure.

“(3) SPECIAL RULES FOR COMMUNICATIONS INVOLVING CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATES.—For purposes of this subsection, a public communication shall not be considered to be a covered communication with respect to a candidate for election for an office other than the office of President or Vice President of the United States if such candidate or a political committee or agent of the candidate, including with the approval of the candidate, directly or indirectly provides any of the following means of disposal (or a combination thereof), in any order the individual considers appropriate:

“(A) returning such contributions or donations to the individuals, entities, or both, who made such contributions or donations.

“(B) the Federal Election Commission shall appropriate:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 323(c)(1) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30125(c)(1)) is amended—

“(1) by striking ‘or’ at the end of subparagraph (A);

“(2) by striking the end of subparagraph (B) and inserting ‘; or’; and

“(3) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(C) solicits, receive, direct, or transfer funds to or on behalf of any political committee which accepts donations or contributions that do not comply with the limitations, prohibitions, and reporting requirements of this Act (or to or on behalf of any account of a political committee which is established and through which the proceeds of accepting such donations or contributions, or to or on behalf of any political organization under section 5113 and section 5302, is amended—

“(a) by redesignating subsections (c), (d), and (e) as subsections (d), (e), and (f), respectively, and

“(b) by inserting after subsection (b) the following new subsection:

“(c) DISPOSAL.—

“(1) TIMEFRAME.—Contributions or donations described in subsection (a) may only be used—

“(A) in the case of a person who is not a candidate with respect to an election for any Federal office for a 6-year period beginning on the day after the date of the most recent such election for which the amount of the payment remains available and ending on the date on which the person makes the payment.

“(B) in the case of a person who is a candidate for any such office, during such 6-year period; or

“(C) in the case of a person who is a registered lobbyist under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995, before the date on which such individual becomes such a registered lobbyist.

“(2) MEANS OF DISPOSAL.—Beginning on the date the 6-year period described in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) ends (or, in the case of a person described in subparagraph (B) of such paragraph, the date on which the person makes a report to the Federal Election Commission or to the state or local political committee as required by section 438(c) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30114), as amended by section 1101(b)(1) of the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-147)), contributions or donations that remain after the applicable 6-year period may be disposed of, not later than 30 days after such date, as follows:

“(A) First, to pay any debts or obligations owed in connection with an election for Federal office of the individual.

“(B) Second, to the extent such contribution or donations remain available after the application of subparagraph (A), in any order the individual considers appropriate:

“(i) contributions or donations to the individuals, entities, or both, who made such contributions or donations.
“(ii) Making contributions to an organization described in section 170(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

“(iii) Making transfers to a national, State, or local committee of a political party.”

SEC. 6202. 1-YEAR TRANSITION PERIOD FOR CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of an individual described in section 6201(b), any contributions or donations remaining available to the individual shall be disposed of—

(1) not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this section; and

(2) in accordance with the prioritization specified in subparagraphs (A) through (D) of subsection (a) of section 312 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30114), as amended by section 6201.

(b) INDIVIDUALS DESCRIBED.—An individual described in this subsection is an individual who, as of the date of the enactment of this section—

(1)(A) is not a candidate with respect to an election for any Federal office for a period of not less than 6 years beginning on the day after the date of the most recent such election in which the individual was a candidate for any such office; or

(B) is an individual who becomes a registered lobbyist under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 and

(2) would be in violation of subsection (c) of section 313 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30114), as amended by section 6201.

Subtitle D—Recommendations to Ensure Filing of Reports Before Date of Election

SEC. 6301. RECOMMENDATIONS TO ENSURE FILING OF REPORTS BEFORE DATE OF ELECTION.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Federal Election Commission shall submit a report to Congress providing recommendations, including recommendations for changes to existing law, on how to ensure that each political committee under the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, including a committee which accepts donations or contributions that do not comply with the limitations, prohibitions, and reporting requirements of such Act, will file a report under section 304 of such Act prior to the date of the election for which the committee receives contributions or makes disbursements, without regard to the date on which the committee first registered under such Act, and shall include specific recommendations to ensure that such committees will not delay until after the date of the election the reporting of the identification of persons who are beneficiaries of such committee that shall be used to repay debt incurred by the committee.

Subtitle E—Severability

DIVISION C—ETHICS

TITLE VII—ETHICAL STANDARDS

Subtitle A—Supreme Court Ethics

Sec. 7001. Code of conduct for Federal judges.

Subtitle B—Foreign Agents Registration

Sec. 7101. Establishment of FARA investigation and enforcement unit within Department of Justice.

Sec. 7102. Authority to impose civil money penalties.

Sec. 7103. Disclosure of transactions involving things of financial value concerning foreign principals.

Sec. 7104. Ensuring online access to registration statements.

Subtitle C—Lobbying Disclosure Reform

Sec. 7201. Expanding scope of individuals and activities subject to requirements of Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995.

Sec. 7202. Prohibiting receipt of compensation for lobbying activities on behalf of foreign countries violating human rights.

Sec. 7203. Requiring lobbyists to disclose status as lobbyists upon making any lobbying contacts.

Subtitle D—Recusal of Presidential Appointees

Sec. 7301. Recusal of appointees.

Subtitle E—Cleanliness on Lobbying Information

Sec. 7401. Establishment of clearinghouse.

Subtitle F—Severability

Sec. 7501. Severability.

Subtitle A—Supreme Court Ethics

SEC. 7001. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR FEDERAL JUDGES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 57 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§964j. Code of conduct

"(1) Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this section, the Judicial Conference shall issue a code of conduct, which applies to each justice and judge of the United States, except that such conduct may include provisions that are applicable only to certain categories of judges or justices.

"(2) The Judicial Conference shall issue the code of conduct, which applies to each justice and judge of the United States, except that such conduct may include provisions that are applicable only to certain categories of judges or justices.

"(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 57 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by adding after the item related to section 963 the following:

"964j. Code of conduct."

Subtitle B—Foreign Agents Registration

SEC. 7101. ESTABLISHMENT OF FARA INVESTIGATION AND ENFORCEMENT UNIT WITHIN DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

Section 8 of the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended (22 U.S.C. 618) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(1) DEDICATED ENFORCEMENT UNIT.—

"(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Attorney General shall establish a unit within the counterintelligence section of the National Security Division of the Department of Justice with responsibility for the enforcement of this Act.

"(B) POWERS.—The unit established under this subsection is authorized to—

"(i) take appropriate legal action against individuals suspected of violating this Act; and

"(ii) coordinate any such legal action with the United States Attorney for the relevant jurisdiction.

"(2) CONSULTATION.—In operating the unit established under this subsection, the Attorney General shall, as appropriate, consult with the Director of National Intelligence, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Secretary of State.

"(3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out the activities of the unit established under this subsection $10,000,000 for fiscal year 2021 and each succeeding fiscal year.

"(2) SUPPLEMENTS.—Whoever fails to file timely or complete supplements as provided under section 2(b) shall be subject to a civil money penalty of not more than $7,500 per violation.

"(3) GATER V IOLATIONS.—Whoever knowingly fails to—

"(A) make a false statement or file a false report as required by section 2(b); or

"(B) comply with any other provision of this Act,

shall upon proof of such knowing violation by a preponderance of the evidence, be subject to a civil money penalty of not more than $200,000, depending on the extent and gravity of the violation.

"(4) NO FINES PAID BY FOREIGN PRINCIPALS.—A civil money penalty paid under paragraph (1) may not be paid, directly or indirectly, by a foreign principal.

"(5) USE OF FINES.—All civil money penalties collected under this section shall be used to defray the cost of the enforcement unit established by this Act.

"(a) REQUIRING AGENTS TO DISCLOSE KNOWN TRANSACTIONS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 2(a) of the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended (22 U.S.C. 612(a)) is amended—

"(A) by redesignating paragraphs (10) and (11) as paragraphs (11) and (12); and

"(B) by inserting after paragraph (9) the following new paragraph:

"(10) To the extent that the registrant has knowledge of any transaction which occurred in the preceding 60 days or in which the foreign principal for whom the registrant is acting as an agent conferred on a Federal or State officeholder any thing of financial value, including a gift, profit, salary, favorable regulatory treatment, or any other direct or indirect economic or financial benefit, a detailed statement describing such transaction.

"(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

"(b) SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURE FOR CURRENT REGISTRANTS.—Not later than the expiration of the 90-day period which begins on the date of the enactment of this Act, each registrant who (i) prior to the expiration of such period filed a registration statement with the Attorney General; and (ii) has knowledge of any transaction described in paragraph (10) of section 2(a) of such Act (as added by subsection (a)(1)) which occurred at any time during which the registrant was an agent of the foreign principal involved, shall file with the Attorney General a supplemental disclosure to such registration statement on a form prescribed by the Attorney General, containing a detailed statement describing each such transaction.

"(c) ENSURING ONLINE ACCESS TO REGISTRATION STATEMENTS.—

"(1) REQUIRING STATEMENTS FILED BY REGISTRANTS TO BE IN DIGITIZED FORMAT.—Section 2(g) of the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended (22 U.S.C. 612(a)) is amended by striking "in electronic form" and inserting "in a digitized format which will enable the Attorney General to meet the requirements of section 6(d)(1) (relating to public access to an electronic database of statements and updates)."

"(2) REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTRONIC DATABASE ON DIGITIZED STATEMENTS.—Section 6(d)(1) of such Act (22 U.S.C. 616(d)(1)) is amended—
(1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “to the extent technically prac-
ticable,”; and
(2) in subparagraph (A), by striking “includes the information” and inserting “in a digitized format the information”.
(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply with respect to lobbying contacts made on or after the expiration of the 180-day period which begins on the date of the enactment of this Act.

Subtitle C—Lobbying Disclosure Reform

SEC. 7201. EXPANDING SCOPE OF INDIVIDUALS AND ACTIVITIES SUBJECT TO REQUIREMENTS OF LOBBYING DISCLOSURE ACT OF 1995.

(a) COVERAGE OF INDIVIDUALS PROVIDING COUNSELING SERVICES.—
(1) TREATMENT OF COUNSELING SERVICES IN SUPPORT OF LOBBYING CONTACTS AS LOBBYING ACTIVITY.—Section 3(t) of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1602(t)) is amended—
(A) by striking “efforts” and inserting “any efforts”; and
(B) by striking “research and other back-
ground work” and inserting the following:
“counseling in support of such preparation and planning activities, research, and other back-
ground work”;
(2) TREATMENT OF LOBBYING CONTACT MADE WITH PURPOSE OF PROVIDING COUNSELING SERVICES AS LOBBYING CONTACT MADE BY INDIVIDUAL PROVIDING SERVICES.—Section 3(b) of such Act (2 U.S.C. 1602(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following paragraph:
“COUNSELING SERVICES.—Any individual, with author-
ty to direct or substantially influence a lobby-
ing contact or contacts made by another indi-
vidual, and for financial or other compensation provides counseling services in support of prepa-
ration and planning activities which are treated as lobbying activities under paragraph (7) for that other individual’s lobbying contact or contacts and who has knowledge that the specific lobbying contacts or contacts were made, shall be considered to have made the same lobbying con-
tact at the same time and in the same manner to the covered executive branch official or covered legislative branch official involved.”;
(b) REDUCTION OF PERCENTAGE EXEMPTION FOR DETERMINATION OF THRESHOLD OF LOBBYING CONTACTS REQUIRED FOR INDIVIDUALS TO REGISTER AS LOBBYISTS.—Section 3(c) of such Act (2 U.S.C. 1602(c)) is amended by striking “less than 20 percent” and inserting “less than 16%”;
(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to lobby-
ing contacts made on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 7202. PROHIBITING RECEIPT OF COMPENSA-
TION FOR LOBBYING ACTIVITIES ON BEHALF OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES VIOLATING HUMAN RIGHTS.

(a) PROHIBITION.—The Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 5 the following new section:
“SEC. 5A. PROHIBITING RECEIPT OF COMPENSA-
TION FOR LOBBYING ACTIVITIES ON BEHALF OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES VIOLATING HUMAN RIGHTS.
“(a) PROHIBITION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, no person may ac-
cept financial or other compensation for lobby-
ing activity under this Act on behalf of a cli-
ent who is a government which the President has determined is engaging in human rights abuses and transgressions and in gross violations of human rights.
“(b) CLARIFICATION OF TREATMENT OF DIPLO-
MATIC OR CONSULAR OFFICERS.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect any activity of a duly accredited diplomatic or consular offi-
cer of a foreign government who is so recognized by the Department of State, while said officer is engaged in activities recognized by the Department of State as being within the scope of the functions of such officer.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to lobby-
ing activity under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 which occurs pursuant to contracts entered into after the date of the enact-
ment of this Act.

SEC. 7203. REQUIRING LOBBYISTS TO DISCLOSE STATUS AS LOBBYISTS UPON MAKING LOBBYING CONTACTS.

(a) MANDATORY DISCLOSURE OF TIME OF CON-
TACT.—Section 14 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1609) is amended—
(1) by striking subsections (a) and (b) and in-
serting the following:
“(a) REQUIRING IDENTIFICATION AT TIME OF LOBBYING CONTACT.—Any person or entity that makes a lobbying contact that affects legisla-
tive branch official or a covered executive branch official shall, at the time of the lobbying contact—
(1) indicate whether the person or entity is registered under this chapter and identify the client on whose behalf the lobbying contact is made; and
(2) indicate whether such client is a foreign entity and identify any foreign entity required to be disclosed under section 4(b)(5) that has a direct interest in the outcome of the lobbying ac-
tivity.;” and
(2) by redesignating subsection (c) as sub-
section (b).
(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to lobby-
ing contacts made on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

Subtitle D—Recusal of Presidential Appointees

SEC. 7201. RECUSAL OF APPOINTEES.
Section 208 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following paragraphs:
“(e)(1) Any officer or employee appointed by the President or self or herself from any particular matter involving specific parties in which a party to that matter is—
(A) the President who appointed the officer or employee, which shall include any entity in which the President has a substantial interest; or
(B) the spouse of the President who ap-
pointed the officer or employee, which shall in-
clude any entity in which the spouse of the President has a substantial interest.
“(2)(A) Subject to subparagraph (B), if an of-

ciler or employee is disqualified under paragraph (1), a career appointee in the agency of the offi-
cer or employee shall perform the functions and duties of the officer or employee with respect to the matter.
“(B)(i) In this subparagraph, the term ‘Com-
mission’ means a board, commission, or other agency for which the authority of the agency is vested in more than 1 member.
“(ii) If the recusal of a member of a Com-
mission from a matter under paragraph (1) would result in one or more of the members of the Commission not recused under paragraph (1) may—
(1) consider the matter without regard to the quorum requirement under such statute;
(2) delegate the authorities and responsibil-
ities of the Commission with respect to the mat-
ter to a subcommittee of the Commission; or
(III) designate an officer or employee of the Commission who was not appointed by the President who appointed the member of the Commission recused from the matter to exercise the authorities and duties of the recused member with respect to the matter.
“(2)(B) Any officer or employee who violates paragraph (1) shall be subject to the penalties set forth in section 216.
“(4) For purposes of this section, the term ‘particular matter’ shall have the meaning given to the term in section 207(i).”.

Subtitle E—Clearhouse on Lobbying Information

SEC. 7401. ESTABLISHMENT OF CLEARHOUSE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Attorney General shall establish and operate within the Depart-
ment of Justice a clearhouse through which members of the public may obtain copies (in-
cluding in electronic form) of registration state-
(b) FORM.—The Attorney General shall ensure that the information in the clearhouse established under this Act is maintained in a searchable and sortable format.

Title VIII—Ethics Reforms for the President, Vice President, and Federal Officers and Employees

Subtitle A—Executive Branch Conflict of Interest

Sec. 8001. Short title.
Sec. 8002. Restrictions on private sector pay-
ment for government service.
Sec. 8003. Requirements relating to slowing the revolving door.
Sec. 8004. Prohibition of procurement officers accepting employment from govern-
ment contractors.
Sec. 8005. Revolving door restrictions on em-
ployees moving into the private sector.
Sec. 8006. Guidance on unpaid employees.
Sec. 8007. Limitation on use of federal funds and contracting at businesses owned by federal government offi-
cers and employees.
Subtitle B—Presidential Conflicts of Interest

Sec. 8011. Short title.
Sec. 8012. Divestiture of personal financial in-
terests of the President and Vice President that pose a potential conflict of interest.
Sec. 8013. Initial financial disclosure.
Sec. 8014. Contracts by the President or Vice President.
Sec. 8015. Legal Defense Funds.
Subtitle C—White House Ethics Transparency

Sec. 8031. Short title.
Sec. 8032. Reauthorization of the Office of Gov-
ernment Ethics.
Sec. 8033. Tenure of the Director of the Office of Government Ethics.
Sec. 8034. Duties of Director of the Office of Government Ethics.
Sec. 8035. Agency ethics officials training and duties.
Sec. 8036. Prohibition on use of funds for cer-
tain Federal employee travel in contravention of certain regula-
tions.
Subtitle A—Executive Branch Conflict of Interest

SEC. 8001. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the “Executive Branch Conflict of Interest Act.”

SEC. 8002. REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO SLOWING THE REVOLVING DOOR.

(a) In General.—The Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“TITILE VI—ENHANCED REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTAIN EMPLOYEES

§601. Definitions

In this title:

(1) COVERED AGENCY.—The term ‘covered agency’—

(A) means an Executive agency, as defined in section 105 of title 5, United States Code, the Postal Service and the Postal Rate Commission, but does not include the Government Accountability Office or the Government of the District of Columbia;

(B) shall include the Executive Office of the President.

(2) COVERED EMPLOYEE.—The term ‘covered employee’ means an officer or employee referred to in paragraph (2) of section 207(c) or paragraph (1) of section 207(d) of title 18, United States Code.

(3) DIRECTOR.—The term ‘Director’ means the Director of the Office of Government Ethics.

(4) EXECUTIVE BRANCH.—The term ‘executive branch’ has the meaning given that term in section 101.

(5) FORMER CLIENT.—The term ‘former client’—

(A) means a person for whom a covered employee served as an agent, advisor, trustee, agent, attorney, consultant, or contractor during the 2-year period ending on the date before the date on which the covered employee begins service in the Federal Government; and

(B) does not include any agency or instrumentality of the Federal Government.

(6) FORMER EMPLOYER.—The term ‘former employer’—

(A) means a person for whom a covered employee served as an officer, director, trustee, agent, attorney, consultant, or contractor during the 2-year period ending on the date before the date on which the covered employee begins service in the Federal Government; and

(B) does not include—

(i) an entity in the Federal Government, including an executive agency;

(ii) a State or local government;

(iii) the District of Columbia;

(iv) the government of a territory or possession of the United States;

(v) a particular matter.—The term ‘particular matter’ has the meaning given that term in section 207(i) of title 18, United States Code.

(7) PARTICULAR MATTER.—The term ‘particular matter’ has the meaning given that term in section 207(i) of title 18, United States Code.

(8) PUBLICATION.—For any waiver granted under paragraph (1), the individual who grants such waiver, the Director shall—

(A) by inserting ‘(d)’ after ‘(b);’ and

(B) by adding the following:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Any person who violates, section 602.

(a) CRIMINAL PENALTIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Any person who violates, section 602.

(2) CIVIL PENALTY.—

(i) $100,000 for each violation; or

(ii) the amount of compensation the person received or was offered for the conduct constituting a violation.

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—A civil penalty under this section may not be in addition to any other criminal or civil statutory, common law, or administrative remedy available to the United States or any other person.

(c) INJUNCTIVE RELIEF.—

(A) In General.—In a civil action brought under paragraph (1) against a person, the Attorney General may petition the court for an order prohibiting the person from engaging in conduct that violates section 602.

(B) STANDARD.—The court may issue an order under subparagraph (A) of the court finds by a preponderance of the evidence that the conduct of the person violates section 602.

(C) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—The filing of a petition seeking injunctive relief under this paragraph shall not preclude any other remedy that is available by law to the United States or any other person.

SEC. 8004. PROHIBITION OF PROCUREMENT OFFICERS ACCEPTING EMPLOYMENT FROM GOVERNMENT CONTRACTORS.

(a) EXPANSION OF PROHIBITION ON ACCEPTANCE BY FORMER OFFICIALS OF COMPENSATION FROM CONTRACTORS.—Section 2104 of title 41, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking “or consultant” and inserting “attorney, consultant, subcontractor, or lobbyist”;

(ii) by striking “‘one year’ and inserting “2 years”;

(B) in paragraph (3), by striking “personally made for the Federal agency” and inserting “personally and substantially in”;

and

(2) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

“PROHIBITION ON COMPENSATION FROM AFFILIATES AND SUBCONTRACTORS.—A former official responsible for a Government contract referred to in paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of subsections (a) and (b) may not accept compensation from an affiliate, subcontractor, or representative of an affiliate, subcontractor, or representative of the contractor for 2 years after awarding the contract from any division, affiliate, or subcontractor of the contractor.”

SEC. 8005. REQUIREMENT FOR PROCUREMENT OFFICERS TO DISCLOSE JOB OFFERS MADE TO RELATIVES.—Section 2103(q) of title 41, United States Code, is amended in the matter preceding paragraph (1) by inserting after “(a)” the following: “(1) for a relative (as defined in section 803 of title 5) of that official,’’.

(c) REQUIREMENT ON AWARD OF GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS TO FORMER EMPLOYEES.—

(1) In General.—Chapter 21 of division B of subtitle I of title 41, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“*603. Penalties and injunctions

(‘(c) Criminal penalties.—

(1) In General.—Any person who violates section 602 shall be fined under title 18, United States Code, imprisoned for not more than 1 year, or both.

(2) WILLFUL VIOLATIONS.—Any person who willfully violates section 602 shall be fined under title 18, United States Code, imprisoned for not more than 5 years, or both.

(3) CIVIL ENFORCEMENT.—

(A) In General.—The Attorney General may bring a civil action in an appropriate district court of the United States against any person who violates, or whom the Attorney General has reason to believe is engaging in conduct that violates, section 602.

(B) CIVIL PENALTY.—

(A) In General.—If the court finds by a preponderance of the evidence that a person violated section 602, the court shall impose a civil penalty of not more than the greater of—

(i) $100,000 for each violation; or

(ii) the amount of compensation the person received or was offered for the conduct constituting the violation.

(B) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—A civil penalty under this section may not be in addition to any other criminal or civil statutory, common law, or administrative remedy available to the United States or any other person.

(c) INJUNCTIVE RELIEF.—

(A) In General.—In a civil action brought under paragraph (1) against a person, the Attorney General may petition the court for an order prohibiting the person from engaging in conduct that violates section 602.

(B) STANDARD.—The court may issue an order under subparagraph (A) if the court finds by a preponderance of the evidence that the conduct of the person violates section 602.

(C) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—The filing of a petition seeking injunctive relief under this paragraph shall not preclude any other remedy that is available by law to the United States or any other person.”

March 2, 2021

HCONRES 14

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—HOUSE

Sec. 8037. Reports on cost of Presidential travel.

Sec. 8038. Reports on cost of senior Federal official travel.

Subtitle E—Conflicts From Political Fundraising

Sec. 8041. Short title.

Sec. 8042. Definition of certain types of contributions.

Subtitle F—Transition Team Ethics

Sec. 8051. Short title.

Sec. 8052. Presidential transition ethics program.

Subtitle G—Ethics Pledge For Senior Executive Branch Employees

Sec. 8061. Short title.

Sec. 8062. Ethics pledge requirement for senior executive branch employees.

Subtitle H—Travel on Private Aircraft by Senior Political Appointees

Sec. 8071. Short title.

Sec. 8072. Prohibition on use of funds for travel on private aircraft.

Subtitle I—Severability

Sec. 8081. Severability.
amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"§2108. Prohibition on involvement by certain former contractor employees in procurements.

"An employee of the Federal Government may not participate personally and substantially in any award of a contract to, or the administration of a contract awarded to, a contractor that is a former employer of the employee during the 2-year period beginning on the date on which the employee leaves the employment of the contractor.

(2) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 21 of title 41, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

"2108. Prohibition on involvement by certain former contractor employees in procurements.

(d) REGULATIONS.—The Director of the Office of Government Ethics, in consultation with the Administrator of General Services, shall promulgate regulations to carry out and ensure the enforcement of chapter 21 of title 41, United States Code, pending by this section.

(e) MONITORING AND COMPLIANCE.—The Administrator of General Services, in consultation with designated agency ethics officials (as that term is defined in section 101 of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.)), shall monitor compliance with this chapter 21 by individuals and entities covered by this section.

SEC. 8005. REVOLVING DOOR RESTRICTIONS ON EMPLOYEES MOVING INTO THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (c) of section 207 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the subsection heading, by striking "ONE-YEAR" and inserting "TWO-YEAR";

(2) by inserting "2-year period beginning on the date on which is a former employer of the employee during the 2-year period;"

and inserting "2 years"; and

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 21 of title 41, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

"2005. Revolving door restrictions on employees moving into the private sector.

SEC. 8006. GUIDANCE ON UNPAID EMPLOYEES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (c) of section 207 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the subsection heading, by striking "ONE-YEAR" and inserting "TWO-YEAR";

(2) by inserting "2-year period beginning on the date on which is a former employer of the employee during the 2-year period;"

and inserting "2 years"; and

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 21 of title 41, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new item:


SEC. 8008. GUIDANCE ON UNPAID EMPLOYEES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office of Government Ethics shall issue such standards applicable to unpaid employees of an agency.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(1) the term "agency" includes the Executive Office of the President and the White House; and

(2) the term "unpaid employee" includes any individual occupying a position at an agency and who is unpaid by operation of section 3101 of title 5, United States Code, or any other provision of law, but does not include any employee who is unpaid by reason of a leave in an appropriation.

SEC. 8009. LIMITATION ON USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS AND CONTRACTING AT BUSINESSES OWNED BY CERTAIN GOVERNMENT OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES.

(a) LIMITATION ON FEDERAL FUNDS.—Beginning 2 years and in each fiscal year thereafter, no Federal funds may be obligated or expended for purposes of procuring goods or services at any business owned or controlled by a covered individual or any family member of such an individual, unless such obligation or expenditure of funds is authorized under the Presidential Protection Assistance Act of 1976 (Public Law 94-52-53).

(b) PROHIBITION ON CONTRACTS.—No Executive agency may enter into or hold a contract with a business owned or controlled by a covered individual or any family member of such an individual.

(c) DETERMINATION OF OWNERSHIP.—For purposes of paragraph (a), a business shall be deemed to be owned or controlled by a covered individual or any family member of such an individual if the covered individual or family member of such an individual is a partner of, has an ownership or other interest in, or has any connection with, such individual.

(1) is a member of the board of directors or similar governing body of the business;

(2) directly or indirectly owns or controls more than 30 percent of the voting shares of the business; or

(3) is the beneficiary of a trust which owns or controls more than 30 percent of the business and can direct distributions under the terms of the trust.

SEC. 8012. DIVESTITURE OF PERSONAL FINANCIAL INTERESTS OF THE PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT THAT POSE A POTENTIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§701. Divestiture of financial interests posing a conflict of interest

(1) Applicability to the President and Vice President.—The President and Vice President shall, within 30 days of assuming office, divest of all financial interests that pose a conflict of interest because the President or Vice President, the spouse, dependent child, or general partner of the President or Vice President, or any person or organization with whom the President or Vice President is negotiating or has any arrangement concerning prospective employment, has a financial interest.

(ii) converting such each such interest to cash or other investment that meets the criteria established by the Director of the Office of Government Ethics through regulation as being an interest so remote or inconsequential as to not pose a conflict; or

(3) placing each such interest in a qualified blind trust as defined in section 102(f)(3) or a diversified trust under section 102(f)(4)(B).

(b) DISCLOSURE EXEMPTION.—Subsection (a) shall not apply if the President or Vice President complies with clause (2).

(b) ADDITIONAL DISCLOSURES.—Section 102(a) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(9) With respect to any such report filed by the President or Vice President, for any corporation, company, firm, partnership, or other business enterprise in which the President, Vice President, or the spouse or dependent child of the President or Vice President, has a significant financial interest—

(1) if the name of each other person who holds a significant financial interest in the business, firm, partnership, association, corporation, or other entity.

(2) the value, identity, and category of each liability in excess of $10,000; and

(3) a description of the nature and value of any assets with a value of $10,000 or more.

(c) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office of Government Ethics shall promulgate regulations to define the criteria required by section 701(a)(1) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (as added by subsection (a)) and the term "significant financial interest" for purposes of section 102(a)(9) of the Ethics in Government Act (as added by subsection (b)).

SEC. 8013. INITIAL FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE.

This subtitle may be cited as the "Presidential and Vice Presidential Financial Disclosure Act of 2021".

SEC. 8014. CONTRACTS BY THE PRESIDENT OR VICE PRESIDENT.

(a) AMENDMENT.—Section 431 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the heading, by inserting "the President, Vice President, Cabinet Member, or a Federal Contractor by" after "Contracts by".

(2) in the first designated paragraph, by inserting "the President, Vice President, or any Cabinet member" after "Whoever, being

(b) TABLE OF SECTIONS AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 22 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to section 431 and inserting the following:

"431. Contracts by the President, Vice President, or a Member of Congress.

SEC. 8015. LEGAL DEFENSE FUNDS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(1) the term "Director" means the Director of the Office of Government Ethics; and

(2) the term "legal defense fund" means a trust;

(3) that has only one beneficiary;

(4) that is subject to a trust agreement creating an enforceable fiduciary duty on the part of the trustee to the beneficiary, pursuant to the applicable laws of the jurisdiction in which the trust is established;

(5) that is subject to a trust agreement that provides for the mandatory public disclosure of all donations and disbursements;

(D) that is subject to a trust agreement that prohibits the use of its resources for any purpose other than—

(i) the administration of the trust;

(ii) the payment or reimbursement of legal fees or expenses incurred in investigative, civil, criminal, or other legal proceedings of the President or Vice President, or arising by virtue of service by the trust's beneficiary as an officer or employee, as defined in this section, or as an employee, contractor, consultant or volunteer of the campaign of the President or Vice President; or

(iii) the distribution of unused resources to a charity selected by the trustee that has not been selected or recommended by the beneficiary of the trust;

(E) that is subject to a trust agreement that prohibits the use of its resources for any other purpose or personal legal matters, including tax planning, personal injury litigation, protection of property rights, divorces, or estate probate; and

(F) that is subject to a trust agreement that prohibits the acceptance of donations, except in

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in accordance with this section and the regulations of the Office of Government Ethics; 
(3) the term “lobbying activity” has the meaning given that term in section 3 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 102); 
(4) the term “officer or employee” means— 
(A) an officer (as that term is defined in section 2104 of title 5, United States Code) or employee (as that term is defined in section 2105 of such title) of the executive branch of the Government; 
(B) the Vice President; and 
(C) the President; and 
(5) the term “relatives” has the meaning given that term in section 3101 of title 5, United States Code. 

(b) LEGAL DEFENSE FUNDS.—An officer or employee may not accept or use any gift or donation for the payment or reimbursement of legal fees or other expenses related to an investigation, criminal, or other legal proceedings relating to or arising by virtue of the officer or employee’s service as an officer or employee, as defined in this section, or as an employee, contractor, consultant or volunteer of the campaign of the President or Vice President except through a legal defense fund that is certified by the Director of the Office of Government Ethics; and 

(c) LIMITS ON GIFTS AND DONATIONS.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director shall promulgate regulations establishing limitations with respect to gifts and donations described in subsection (b), which shall, at a minimum— 
(1) prohibit the receipt of any gift or donation described in subsection (b); 
(A) from a single contributor (other than as a relative of the officer or employee) in a total amount of more than $5,000 during any calendar year; 
(B) from a registered lobbyist; 
(C) from a foreign government or an agent of a foreign principal; 
(D) from a State government or an agent of a State government; 
(E) from any person seeking official action from, or seeking to do or doing business with, the agency employing the officer or employee; 
(F) from any person conducting activities regulated by the agency employing the officer or employee; 
(G) from any person whose interests may be substantially affected by the performance or nonperformance of the official duties of the officer or employee; or 
(H) from an officer or employee of the executive branch; or 
(I) from any organization of a majority of whose members are officers or employees of the executive branch (as that phrase is defined in section 2105 of title 5, United States Code); and 
(2) require that a legal defense fund, in order to be certified by the Director, only permit distributions to the applicable officer or employee. 

(d) WRITTEN NOTICE.— 
(1) IN GENERAL.—An officer or employee who wishes to accept funds or have a representative accept funds from a legal defense fund shall first ensure that the proposed trustee of the legal defense fund submits to the Director the following information: 
(A) the name and contact information for any proposed trustee of the legal defense fund; 
(B) a copy of any proposed trust document for the legal defense fund; 
(C) the nature of the legal proceeding (or proceedings), investigation or other matter which give rise to the establishment of the legal defense fund; 
(D) a回避nowledgment signed by the officer or employee and the trustee indicating that they will be bound by the regulations and limitation under this section; 
(2) HOURLY.—An officer or employee may not accept any gift or donation to pay, or to reimburse any person for, fees or expenses described in subsection (b) of this section except through a legal defense fund that has been certified in writing by the Director following that office’s receipt and approval of the information submitted under paragraph (1) and approval of the structure of the fund. 

(e) REPORTING.— 
(1) IN GENERAL.—An officer or employee who establishes a legal defense fund may not directly or indirectly accept distributions from a legal defense fund unless the fund has provided the Director a quarterly report for each quarter of every calendar year since the establishment of the legal defense fund that discloses, with respect to the quarter covered by the report— 
(A) the source and amount of each contribution to the legal defense fund; and 
(B) the amount, recipient, and purpose of each contribution from the legal defense fund, including all distributions from the trust for any purpose. 
(2) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The Director shall make publicly available online— 
(A) each report submitted under paragraph (1) in a searchable, sortable, and downloadable form; 
(B) each trust agreement and any amendment thereto; 
(C) the written notice and acknowledgment required by subsection (d); and 
(D) the Director’s written certification of the legal defense fund. 

(f) REQUIREMENTS.—An officer or employee, other than the President and the Vice President, who is the beneficiary of a legal defense fund may not participate personally and substantially in any matter of which the officer or employee knows a donor of any source of a gift or donation to the legal defense fund established for the officer or employee has a financial interest, or that the officer or employee is substantially affected by the performance or nonperformance of the officer or employee’s official duties, which may be delegated to each agen-

Subtitle C—White House Ethics Transparency 

SEC. 8021. SECURITIES REPORTING REQUIREMENTS. 
This subtitle may be cited as the “White House Ethics Transparency Act of 2021”. 

SEC. 8022. PROCEDURE FOR WAIVERS AND AUTHORIZATIONS RELATING TO ETHICS REQUIREMENTS. 

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, not later than 30 days after an officer or employee issues or approves a waiver or authorization pursuant to any Executive order related to ethics commitments or compliance by covered employees, such officer or employee shall— 
(1) transmit a written copy of such waiver or authorization to the Director of the Office of Government Ethics; 
(2) make a written copy of such waiver or authorization available to the public on the website of the employing agency of the covered employee; and 
(b) OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT ETHICS PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—Not later than 30 days after receiving a written copy of a waiver or authorization under subsection (a)(1), the Director of the Office of Government Ethics shall make such waiver or authorization available to the public on the website of the Office of Government Ethics. 

(c) DEFINITION OF COVERED EMPLOYEE.—In this section, the term “covered employee” means— 
(1) a noncareer Presidential appointee, a noncareer appointee in the Senior Executive Service (or other SES-type system), or an appointee to a position that has been excepted from the competitive service by reason of being of a confidential or policy-making character (Schedule C and other positions excepted by comparable criteria) in an executive agency; and 
(2) does not include any individual appointed as a member of the Senior Foreign Service or solely as a uniformed service commissioned officer. 

Subtitle D—Executive Branch Ethics Enforcement 

SEC. 8031. SHORT TITLE. 
This subtitle may be cited as the “Executive Branch Comprehensive Ethics Enforcement Act of 2021”. 

SEC. 8032. REAUTHORIZATION OF THE OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT ETHICS. 
Section 405 of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended by striking “fiscal year 2007” and inserting “fiscal years 2021 through 2025.”. 

SEC. 8033. TENURE OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT ETHICS. 
Section 401(b) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended by striking the period at the end and inserting “subject to removal only for inefficiency, neglect of duty, or malfeasance in office. The Director may continue to serve beyond the expiration of the term until a successor is appointed and has qualified, except that the Director may not continue to serve for more than one year after the date on which the term would otherwise expire under this subsection.”. 

SEC. 8034. DUTIES OF DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT ETHICS. 
(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 402(a) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended by striking “by the Office of Personnel Management.”; and 
(b) RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DIRECTOR.—Section 402(b) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended— 
(1) in paragraph (1)— 
(A) by striking “developing, in consultation with the Attorney General and the Office of Personnel Management” and inserting “promulgating, with the Inspectors General and the White House Counsel as deemed appropriate by the Director;”; 
(2) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following: 
(A) provide mandatory education and training programs for designated agency ethics officials, which may be delegated to each agency or the White House Counsel as deemed appropriate by the Director; 
(B) by striking “by issuing” and inserting “by issuing and”; 
(B) by striking “and inserting “issues”; 
(C) by striking “by” and inserting “by”; and 
(D) by striking “by striking ‘‘conflict of interest problems’’ and inserting ‘‘conflicts of interest, as well as other ethics issues’’; 
(3) in paragraph (3), by striking “title II” and inserting “title I”; 
(4) in paragraph (4), by striking “problems” and inserting “issues”; 
(5) in paragraph (6)— 
(A) by striking “by issued by the President or the Director” and inserting “by the President and”; 
(B) by striking “problems” and inserting “issues”; 
(6) in paragraph (7)— 
(A) by striking “when requested,”; and 
(B) by striking “by striking ‘‘conflict of interest problems’’ and inserting ‘‘conflicts of interest, as well as other ethics issues’’; 
(7) in paragraph (9)— 
(A) by striking “ordering” and inserting “receiving”; 
(B) by striking “of violations of this Act or regulations of the Office of Government Ethics and, when necessary, investigating an allegation to determine whether a violation occurred, and ordering”; and 
(C) by inserting before the semi-colon the following: “and recommending appropriate disciplinary action”; 
(8) in paragraph (12)— 
(A) by striking “evaluating, with the assistance of” and inserting “promulgating, with input from”; 
(B) by striking “the need for”; and 
(C) by striking “conflict of interest and ethical problems” and inserting “conflict of interest and ethics issues”; 
(9) in paragraph (13)— 
(A) by striking “with the Attorney General” and inserting “with the Inspectors General and the Attorney General”; 
(B) by striking “violations of the conflict of interest issues and allegations of violations of ethics laws and regulations and this Act”; and 
(C) by striking “, as required by section 535 of title 28, United States Code”; 
(10) in paragraph (14), by striking “and” at the end;
(II) in paragraph (15)—
(A) by striking “,” in consultation with the Office of Personnel Management;”;
(B) by striking “title II” and inserting “title I”;
and
(C) by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon;
and
(ii) by adding at the end the following:
(1) by striking “(providing final approval, when determined appropriate by the Director, for designated agency ethics officials regarding the resolution of conflicts of interest as well as any other ethics issues under the purview of this Act in individual cases; and”
(2) reviewing and approving, when determined appropriate by the Director, any recusals, exemptions, or waivers from the conflicts of interest and ethics laws, rules, and regulations and making approved recusals, exemptions, and waivers made publicly available by the relevant agency available in a central location on the official website of the Office of Government Ethics.”;

(c) WRITTEN PROCEDURES.—Paragraph (1) of section 402(d) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended—
(1) by striking “, by the exercise of any authority otherwise available to the Director under this title,”;
(2) by striking “the agency is”; and
(3) by inserting “or employee’s” after “the”.

(d) CORRECTIVE ACTIONS.—Section 402(f) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended—
(1) in paragraph (1)—
(A) in clause (i) of subparagraph (A), by striking “of such agency”;
and
(B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting before the period at the end “and determine that a violation of this Act has occurred and issue appropriate administrative or legal remedies as prescribed in paragraph (2)”;
(2) in paragraph (2)—
(A) in subparagraph (A)—
(i) in clause (i)–
(II) by striking “(2) The Director shall provide ethics education to the President or the President’s designee.”;

(ii) by inserting “the President or the Director” before “of the President”;
and
(III) by striking “(2) The term ‘officer or employee’ shall include any individual occupying a position within a Federal agency, performing an advisory capacity, in the White House or the Executive Office of the President.”;

(h) in this title, a reference to the head of an agency shall include the President or the President’s designee—
(1) “The Director shall not be required to obtain the prior approval, comment, or review of any officer or agency of the United States, including the Office of Management and Budget, before submitting to Congress, or any committee or subcommittee thereof, any information, reports, recommendations, comments, if such submissions include a statement indicating that the views expressed therein are those of the Director and do not necessarily represent the views of the President.”;

SEC. 8035. AGENCY ETHICS OFFICIALS TRAINING AND DUTIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 403 of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended—
(1) in subsection (a), by adding a period at the end of the matter following paragraph (2); and
(2) by adding at the end the following:
“(c)(I) All designated agency ethics officials and alternate designated agency ethics officials shall register with the Director as well as with the appointing authority of the official.

(2) The Director shall provide ethics education and training to all designated and alternate designated agency ethics officials in a time and manner deemed appropriate by the Director.

(3) Each designated agency ethics official and each alternate designated agency ethics official shall biannually attend ethics education and training, as provided by the Director under paragraph (2).

(b) SENIOR FEDERAL OFFICIAL DEFINED.—In this section, the term “senior federal official” has the meaning given that term in section 101–37.408 of title 41, Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on the date of enactment of this Act, and includes any senior federal official appointed or otherwise made available in any fiscal year may be used for the travel expenses of any senior federal official in consultation with section 7323(a) of title 5, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation.

(c) QUARTERLY REPORT ON TRAVEL.—
(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act and every 90 days thereafter, the head of each Federal agency shall submit a report to the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate detailing travel paid for by any senior federal official employed at the applicable agency.

(d) APPLICABILITY.—Any report required under paragraph (1) shall not include any classified travel, and nothing in this Act shall be construed to supersede, alter, or otherwise affect the application of section 101–37.408 of title 41, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation.

SEC. 8037. REPORTS ON COST OF PRESIDENTIAL TRAVEL.

(a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and every 90 days thereafter, the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of the Air Force, shall submit to the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives a report detailing the direct and indirect costs to the Department of Defense in support of Presidential travel. Each such report shall include costs incurred for travel to a property owned or operated by the United States Government or an immediate family member of such individual.

(b) IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBER DEFINED.—In this section, the term “immediate family member” includes the spouse of an adult or minor child of such individual.
(a) **DEFINITIONS.—**Section 109 of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (2) through (19) as paragraphs (5) through (22), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

"(C) in subsection (d), by inserting "and, if the individual was serving in a covered position, the information required by section 102(j), except that, subject to paragraph (2), the individual shall not be required to file a report if; and"

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

"(2) If an individual has left a position described in subsection (f) that is not a covered position, the information described in section 102(j) shall be filed by the individual within 30 days of assuming the covered position,

(2) in section 102—

(B) in subsection (b)(1), in the first sentence, by inserting "and the information required by section 102(j)" after "described in section 102(b);"

(C) in subsection (d), by inserting "and, if the individual is serving in a covered position, the information required by section 102(j)(2)(A) after "described in section 102(a);" and

(D) in subsection (e), by inserting "and, if the individual was serving in a covered position, the information required by section 102(j)(2)(A) after "described in section 102(a);" and

(2) in section 102—

(A) in subsection (g), by striking "political campaign funds" and inserting "except as provided in subsection (j), political campaign funds";

(B) by adding at the end the following:

"(ii) The term 'covered gift' means a gift—

(ii) with respect to a report filed pursuant to subsection (d) or (e) of section 101, the preceding calendar year;

(2) the term 'covered gift' means a gift that—

(i) is made to a covered individual, the spouse of a covered individual, or the dependent child of a covered individual;

(ii) is made by an entity described in item (a) or (b) of section 301(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or (BB) that promotes or opposes changes in Federal laws or regulations that are (or would be) administered by the agency in which the covered individual has been nominated for appointment to a covered position or is serving in a covered position; and

(ii) the term 'covered gift' means a gift that—

(i) is made to a covered individual, the spouse of a covered individual, or the dependent child of a covered individual;

(ii) is made by an entity described in item (a) or (b) of section 301(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or (BB) that promotes or opposes changes in Federal laws or regulations that are (or would be) administered by the agency in which the covered individual has been nominated for appointment to a covered position or is serving in a covered position; and

(ii) the term 'covered gift' means a gift that—

(i) is made to a covered individual, the spouse of a covered individual, or the dependent child of a covered individual;

(ii) is made by an entity described in item (a) or (b) of section 301(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or (BB) that promotes or opposes changes in Federal laws or regulations that are (or would be) administered by the agency in which the covered individual has been nominated for appointment to a covered position or is serving in a covered position; and

(ii) the term 'covered gift' means a gift that—

(i) is made to a covered individual, the spouse of a covered individual, or the dependent child of a covered individual;

(ii) is made by an entity described in item (a) or (b) of section 301(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or (BB) that promotes or opposes changes in Federal laws or regulations that are (or would be) administered by the agency in which the covered individual has been nominated for appointment to a covered position or is serving in a covered position; and

(ii) the term 'covered gift' means a gift that—

(i) is made to a covered individual, the spouse of a covered individual, or the dependent child of a covered individual;

(ii) is made by an entity described in item (a) or (b) of section 301(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or (BB) that promotes or opposes changes in Federal laws or regulations that are (or would be) administered by the agency in which the covered individual has been nominated for appointment to a covered position or is serving in a covered position; and

(ii) the term 'covered gift' means a gift that—

(i) is made to a covered individual, the spouse of a covered individual, or the dependent child of a covered individual;

(ii) is made by an entity described in item (a) or (b) of section 301(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or (BB) that promotes or opposes changes in Federal laws or regulations that are (or would be) administered by the agency in which the covered individual has been nominated for appointment to a covered position or is serving in a covered position; and

(ii) the term 'covered gift' means a gift that—

(i) is made to a covered individual, the spouse of a covered individual, or the dependent child of a covered individual;

(ii) is made by an entity described in item (a) or (b) of section 301(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or (BB) that promotes or opposes changes in Federal laws or regulations that are (or would be) administered by the agency in which the covered individual has been nominated for appointment to a covered position or is serving in a covered position; and

(ii) the term 'covered gift' means a gift that—

(i) is made to a covered individual, the spouse of a covered individual, or the dependent child of a covered individual;

(ii) is made by an entity described in item (a) or (b) of section 301(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or (BB) that promotes or opposes changes in Federal laws or regulations that are (or would be) administered by the agency in which the covered individual has been nominated for appointment to a covered position or is serving in a covered position; and

(ii) the term 'covered gift' means a gift that—

(i) is made to a covered individual, the spouse of a covered individual, or the dependent child of a covered individual;

(ii) is made by an entity described in item (a) or (b) of section 301(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or (BB) that promotes or opposes changes in Federal laws or regulations that are (or would be) administered by the agency in which the covered individual has been nominated for appointment to a covered position or is serving in a covered position; and

(ii) the term 'covered gift' means a gift that—

(i) is made to a covered individual, the spouse of a covered individual, or the dependent child of a covered individual;

(ii) is made by an entity described in item (a) or (b) of section 301(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or (BB) that promotes or opposes changes in Federal laws or regulations that are (or would be) administered by the agency in which the covered individual has been nominated for appointment to a covered position or is serving in a covered position; and

(ii) the term 'covered gift' means a gift that—

(i) is made to a covered individual, the spouse of a covered individual, or the dependent child of a covered individual;
SEC. 8061. ETHICS PLEDGE REQUIREMENT.

The Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking "and" and adding at the end; and

(2) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(C) a description of the role of each transition team member, including a list of any policy issues or matters the member will be responsible for; and

(E) a list of any issues from which each transition team member will be recused while serving as a member of the transition team pursuant to the transition team ethics plan outlined in section 4(p)(3); and

(F) evidence that no transition team member has a financial conflict of interest that precludes the member from working on the matters described in subparagraph (E)."

SEC. 8062. ETHICS PLEDGE REQUIREMENT FOR SENIOR EXECUTIVE BRANCH EMPLOYEES.

The Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is further amended by inserting after title I the following new title.

**TITLE II—ETHICS PLEDGE**

**SEC. 201. DEFINITIONS.**

For the purposes of this title, the following definitions apply:

(1) the term ‘executive agency’ has the meaning given that term in section 105 of title 5, United States Code, and includes the Executive Office of the President, the United States Postal Service, and Postal Regulatory Commission, but does not include the Government Accountability Office;

(2) the term ‘appointee’ means any noncareer Presidential or Vice-Presidential appointee, noncareer appointee in the Senior Executive Service (or other SES-type system), or appointee that has been excepted from the competitive service by reason of being of a confidential or policymaking character (Schedule C and other positions excepted under comparable laws) who serves in the executive branch, but does not include any individual appointed as a member of the Senior Foreign Service or solely as a uniformed service commissioned officer.

(3) the term ‘government official’ means the President, any officer of the President, the Vice President, any officer of the Vice President, any member of the immediate family of the President or the Vice President, any member of the immediate family of any officer of the President or the Vice President, any agency head, or any other individual as determined by the Office of Government Ethics;

(4) the term ‘post-employment restrictions’ includes each of the lobbyists identified therein.

(5) the term ‘registered lobbyist’ means a registered lobbyist or an organization filing a registration pursuant to section 4(a) of the LobbyingDisclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1803(b)); and

(6) the term ‘lobby’ and ‘lobbied’ mean to act or have acted as a registered lobbyist.

(7) the term ‘former employer’—

(A) means a person or entity for whom an appointee served as an employee, officer, director, trustee, partner, agent, attorney, consultant, contractor, or contractor during the 2-year period ending on the date before the date on which the covered employee begins service in the Federal Government;

(B) does not include—

(i) an agency or instrumentality of the Federal Government;

(ii) a State or local government;

(iii) the District of Columbia;

(iv) an Indian tribe, as defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304); or

(v) the government of a territory or possession of the United States.

(8) the term ‘former client’ means an entity for which an appointee served as an employee, officer, director, trustee, partner, agent, attorney, consultant, contractor, or contractor during the 2-year period ending on the date before the date on which the covered employee begins service in the Federal Government, but does not include an agency or instrumentality of the Federal Government;

(9) the term ‘directly and substantially related to my employer’ means the person or entity directly and substantially related to my employer or former clients’ means matters in which the appointee’s former employer or a former client is a party or represents a party;

(10) the term ‘participate’ means to participate personally and substantially;

(11) the term ‘post-employment restrictions’ includes the provisions and exceptions in section 207(c) of title 18, United States Code, and the implementing regulations;

(12) the term ‘Government official’ means any employee of the executive branch.

(13) the term ‘Administration’ means all terms of office of the incumbent President serving at the time of the appointment of an appointee covered by this title.

(14) the term ‘pledge’ means the ethics pledge set forth in section 202 of this title.

SEC. 202. ETHICS PLEDGE.

Each appointee in every executive agency appointed on or after the date of enactment of this Act shall be required to sign an ethics pledge upon appointment. The pledge shall be signed and dated within 30 days of taking office and shall include, at a minimum, the following elements:

(A) as a condition, and in consideration of my employment in the United States Government in a position involved with the public trust, I commit myself to adhere to the following obligations, which I understand are binding on me and are enforceable under law:

(B) Lobbyist Gift Ban.—I will not accept gifts, payments, or other transfers of anything of monetary value from a lobbyist or lobbying organization for the duration of my service as an appointee.

(2) Revolving Door Ban; Entering Government.—If I was a registered lobbyist within the 2 years before the date of my appointment, in addition to abiding by the limitations of subparagraph (A), I will not for a period of 2 years after the date of my appointment:

(i) participate in any particular matter on which I lobbied within the 2 years before the date of my appointment;

(ii) participate in the specific issue area in which that particular matter falls; or

(iii) enter into employment with any executive agency that I lobbied within the 2 years before the date of my appointment.

(3) Revolving Door Ban; Appointees Leaving Government.—

(A) All Appointees Leaving Government.

(1) If, upon my departure from the Government, I am covered by the prohibition on employment restrictions on communicating with employees of my former executive agency set forth in section 207(c) of title 18, United States Code, I agree that I will abide by those restrictions for a period of 2 years following the end of my appointment.

(B) Appointees Leaving Government to Lobby.—In addition to abiding by the limitations of subparagraph (A), I also agree, upon leaving Government service, not to lobby any covered executive branch official or noncareer Senior Executive Service appointee for the remainder of the Administration.

(4) Employment Qualification Commitment.—I agree that any hiring or other employment decisions I make will be based on the candidate’s qualifications, competence, and experience.

(5) Assent to Enforcement.—I acknowledge that the appointment of the Director of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, which I have read before signing this document, defines certain of the terms applicable to the foregoing obligations and sets forth the methods for enforcing them. I expressly accept the provisions of that title as a part of this agreement and as binding on me. I understand that the terms of this pledge are in addition to any statutory or other legal restrictions applicable to me by virtue of Federal Government service.

**SEC. 203. WAIVER.**

(a) The President or the President’s designee may grant to any current or former appointee a written waiver of any restrictions contained in the pledge signed by such appointee if, and to the extent that, the President or the President’s designee certifies (in writing) that, in light of all the relevant circumstances, the interest of the Federal Government in the employee’s participation outweighs the concern that a reasonable person may question the integrity of the agency’s programs or operations.

(b) Any waiver under this section shall take effect when the certification is signed by the President or the President’s designee.

(c) For purposes of subsection (a)(2), the public interest shall include exigent circumstances relating to national security or to the economy. De minimis contact with an executive agency shall be cause for a waiver of the restrictions contained in paragraph (2)(B) of the pledge.

(d) For any waiver granted under this section, the individual who granted the waiver shall—

(1) provide a copy of the waiver to the Director not more than 48 hours after the waiver is granted; and

(2) publish the waiver on the website of the appointing agency not later than 30 calendar days after granting such waiver.

(e) Upon receiving a written waiver under subsection (d), the Director—

(I) review the waiver to determine whether the Director has any objection to the issuance of the waiver; and

(II) notify the Director so objects—

(A) provide reasons for the objection in writing to the head of the agency who granted the waiver not more than 15 calendar days after the waiver is granted; and

(B) publish the written objection on the website of the Office of Government Ethics not...
more than 30 calendar days after the waiver was granted.

SEC. 204. ADMINISTRATION.

“(a) The head of each executive agency shall, in consultation with the Director of the Office of Government Ethics, establish such rules or procedures (conforming as nearly as practicable to the agency’s general ethics rules and procedures, including those relating to designated agency ethics officials) as are necessary or appropriate to ensure—

“(1) that every appointee in the agency signs the pledge upon assuming the appointed office or otherwise becoming an appointee;

“(2) that compliance with paragraph (2)(B) of the pledge is addressed in a written ethics agreement with each appointee to whom it applies;

“(3) that spousal employment issues and other conflicts not expressly addressed by the pledge are addressed in ethics agreements with appointees or, where no such agreements are required, through ethics counseling; and

“(4) compliance with this title within the agency.

“(b) With respect to the Executive Office of the President, the duties set forth in subsection (a) shall be the responsibility of the Counsel to the President.

“(c) The Director of the Office of Government Ethics shall—

“(1) ensure that the pledge and a copy of this title are made available for use by agencies in fulfilling their duties under subsection (a);

“(2) in consultation with the Attorney General or the Counsel to the President, when appropriate, assist designated agency ethics officers in providing advice to current or former appointees regarding the application of the pledge;

“(3) adopt such rules or procedures as are necessary or appropriate;

“(4) carry out the responsibilities assigned by this subsection;

“(B) apply the lobbyist gift ban set forth in paragraph I of the pledge to all executive branch employees;

“(C) to authorize limited exceptions to the lobbyist gift ban for circumstances that do not implicate the purposes of the ban;

“(D) to make clear that no person shall have violated the lobbyist gift ban if the person properly disposes of a gift;

“(E) to ensure that existing rules and procedures for Governmental Affairs for future employment with private businesses that are affected by their official actions do not affect the integrity of the Government’s programs and operations; and

“(F) in consultation with the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, that the requirement set forth in paragraph (4) of the pledge is honored by every employee of the executive branch;

“(4) in consultation with the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, report to the President, the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate on whether full compliance is being achieved with existing laws and regulations governing executive branch procurement lobbying disclosure and on steps the executive branch can take to expand to the fullest extent practicable disclosure of such executive branch procurement lobbying and of lobbying by presidential pardons, and to include in the report both immediate action the executive branch can take and, if necessary, recommendations for legislation; and

“(5) provide an annual public report on the administration of the pledge and this title.

“(d) All pledges signed by appointees, and all waiver certifications with respect thereto, shall be filed with the head of the appointee’s office for permanent retention in the appointee’s official personnel folder or equivalent folder.”.

Subtitle H—Travel on Private Aircraft by Senior Political Appointees

SEC. 8071. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the “Stop Waste And Misuse by Presidential Flyers Landing Yet Evading Rules and Standards” or the “SWAMP FLYERS”.

SEC. 8072. PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS FOR TRAVEL ON PRIVATE AIRCRAFT.

(a) In General.—Beginning on the date of enactment of this subtitle, no Federal funds appropriated or otherwise made available in any fiscal year may be used to pay the travel expenses of any senior political appointee for travel on an aircraft that is non-commercial, private, or chartered flight.

(b) Exceptions.—The limitation in subsection (a) shall not apply—

(1) if no commercial flight was available for travel in question, consistent with subsection (c); or

(2) to any travel on aircraft owned or leased by the Government.

(c) CERTIFICATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Any senior political appointee who travels on a non-commercial, private, or chartered flight under the exception provided in paragraph (b)(1) shall, not later than 30 days after the date of such travel, submit a written statement to Congress certifying that no commercial flight was available.

(2) PENALTY.—Any senior political appointee who travels on a non-commercial, private, or chartered flight under the exception provided in paragraph (b)(1) shall, not later than 30 days after the date of such travel, submit a written statement to Congress certifying that no commercial flight was available.

(d) DEFINITION OF SENIOR POLITICAL APPOINTEE.—In this subtitle, the term “senior political appointee” means any individual occupying—

(1) a position listed under the Executive Schedule (subchapter II of chapter 53 of title 5, United States Code);

(2) a Senior Executive Service position that is not a career anxie as defined under section 312(a)(4) of title 5, United States Code; or

(3) a position of a confidential or policy-determining character under schedule C of part 213 of title 5, Code of Federal Regulations.

Subtitle I—Severability

SEC. 8081. SEVERABILITY.

If any provision of this title or any amendment made by this title, or any application of such provision or amendment to any person or circumstance, is held unconstitutional, the remainder of the provisions of this title and the amendments made by this title, and the application of the provision or amendment to any other person or circumstance, shall not be affected.

TITLE IX—CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS REFORM

Subtitle A—Requiring Members of Congress To Reimburse Treasury for Amounts Paid as Settlements and Awards Under Congressional Accountability Act of 1995

Sec. 9001. Requiring Members of Congress to Reimburse Treasury for Amounts Paid as Settlements and Awards Under Congressional Accountability Act of 1995

Sec. 9001. Requiring Members of Congress to reimburse Treasury for amounts paid as settlements and awards under Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 in all cases of employment discrimination acts by Members.

Sec. 9002. Conflict of interest rules for Members of Congress and congressional staff.

Sec. 9003. Exercise of rulemaking powers.

Sec. 9004. Effective date.

Subtitle B—Conflicts of Interests

Sec. 9101. Prohibiting Members of House of Representatives From Serving on Boards of For-Profit Entities.

Sec. 9101. Prohibiting Members of House of Representatives From Serving on Boards of For-Profit Entities.

Sec. 9102. Prohibiting Members of Congress to Reimburse Treasury for Amounts Paid as Settlements and Awards Under Congressional Accountability Act of 1995

Sec. 9101. Prohibiting Members of House of Representatives From Serving on Boards of For-Profit Entities.

Sec. 9102. Prohibiting Members of Congress To Reimburse Treasury for Amounts Paid as Settlements and Awards Under Congressional Accountability Act of 1995

Sec. 9101. Prohibiting Members of Congress to Reimburse Treasury for Amounts Paid as Settlements and Awards Under Congressional Accountability Act of 1995

Sec. 9102. Prohibiting Members of Congress to Reimburse Treasury for Amounts Paid as Settlements and Awards Under Congressional Accountability Act of 1995

Sec. 9102. Requiring disclosure in certain reports filed with Federal Election Commission of persons who are registered lobbyists.

Sec. 9102. Effective date.

Subtitle C—Campaign Finance and Lobbying Disclosure

Sec. 9201. Short title.

Sec. 9201. Short title.

Sec. 9202. Requiring disclosure in certain reports filed with Federal Election Commission of persons who are registered lobbyists.

Sec. 9202. Effective date.

Subtitle D—Access to Congressionally Mandated Reports

Sec. 9301. Short title.

Sec. 9301. Short title.

Sec. 9302. Definitions.

Sec. 9303. Establishment of online portal for congressionally mandated reports.

Sec. 9304. Federal agency responsibilities.

Sec. 9306. Relationship to the Freedom of Information Act.

Sec. 9307. Implementation.

Subtitle E—Reports on Outside Compensation Earned by Congressional Employees

Sec. 9401. Reports on outside compensation earned by congressional employees.

Sec. 9401. Reports on outside compensation earned by congressional employees.

Subtitle F—Severability

Sec. 9501. Severability.

Sec. 9501. Severability.

Subtitle A—Requiring Members of Congress To Reimburse Treasury for Amounts Paid as Settlements and Awards Under Congressional Accountability Act of 1995

Subtitle A—Requiring Members of Congress To Reimburse Treasury for Amounts Paid as Settlements and Awards Under Congressional Accountability Act of 1995

Subtitle B—Conflicts of Interests

Subtitle B—Conflicts of Interests

Subtitle C—Campaign Finance and Lobbying Disclosure

Subtitle C—Campaign Finance and Lobbying Disclosure

Subtitle D—Access to Congressionally Mandated Reports

Subtitle D—Access to Congressionally Mandated Reports

Subtitle E—Reports on Outside Compensation Earned by Congressional Employees

Subtitle E—Reports on Outside Compensation Earned by Congressional Employees

Subtitle F—Severability

Subtitle F—Severability

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as part of the rules of each House, respectively, or of that House to which they specifically apply, and such rules shall supersede other rules only to the extent that they are inconsistent with or in derogation of this Act.

(2) with full recognition of the constitutional right of either House to change such rules (so far as relating to such House) at any time, in the same manner, and to the same extent as in the case of any other rule of such House.

Subtitle C—Campaign Finance and Lobbying Disclosures

SEC. 9201. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the "Connecting Lobbyists and Electors for Accountability and Reform Act" or the "CLEAR Act".

SEC. 9202. REQUIRED DISCLOSURE IN CERTAIN REPORTS FILED WITH FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION OF PERSONS WHO ARE REGISTERED LOBBYISTS.

(a) REPORTS FILED BY POLITICAL COMMITTEES.—Section 304(b) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30104(b)) is amended—

(1) by striking "and" at the end of paragraph (7),

(2) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (8) and inserting "; and;", and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(9) any person identified in subparagraph (A), (E), (F), or (G) of paragraph (2) is a registered lobbyist under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995, a separate statement that such person is registered lobbyist under such Act.".

(b) REPORTS FILED BY PERSONS MAKING INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURES.—Section 304(c)(2) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30104(c)(2)) is amended—

(1) by striking "and" at the end of subparagraph (B);

(2) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (C) and inserting "; and;"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

"(D) if the person filing the statement, or a person whose identification is required to be disclosed under subparagraph (C), is a registered lobbyist under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995, a separate statement that such person is a registered lobbyist under such Act.".

(c) REPORTS FILED BY PERSONS MAKING DISBURSEMENTS FOR ELECTRONERVE COMMUNICATIONS.—Section 304(f)(2) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30104(f)(2)) is amended—

(1) by striking "and" at the end of the following new subparagraph:

"(G) if the person making the disbursement, or a contributor described in subparagraph (E) or (F) of paragraph (2), is a registered lobbyist under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995, a separate statement that such person or contributor is a registered lobbyist under such Act.,";

(2) by adding to the end the following new subparagraph:

"(H) the reporting Federal agency.

"(3) FEDERAL AGENCY.—The term "Federal agency" has the meaning given that term under section 102 of title 40, United States Code, but does not include the Government Accountability Office.

SEC. 9301. SHORT TITLE.

SEC. 9302. DEFINITIONS.

In this subtitle:

(1) CONGRESSIONALLY MANDATED REPORT.—The term "congressionally mandated report"—

(A) means a report that is required to be submitted to either House of Congress or any committee of Congress, or subcommittee thereof, by a statute, resolution, conference report that accompanies legislation enacted into law; and

(B) does not include a report required under part B of subtitle II of title 36, United States Code.

(2) DIRECTOR.—The term "Director" means the Director of the Government Publishing Office.

(3) FEDERAL AGENCY.—The term "Federal agency" has the meaning given that term under section 102 of title 40, United States Code, but does not include the Government Accountability Office.

(4) OPEN FORMAT.—The term "open format" means a file format that stores tabular data based on an underlying open standard that—

(A) is not encumbered by any restrictions that would impede reuse; and

(B) is based on an underlying open data standard that is maintained by a standards organization.

(5) REPORTS ONLINE PORTAL.—The term "reports online portal" means the online portal established under section 9303(a).

SEC. 9303. ESTABLISHMENT OF ONLINE PORTAL FOR CONGRESSIONALLY MANDATED REPORTS.

(a) REQUIREMENT TO ESTABLISH ONLINE PORTAL.—(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall establish and maintain an online portal accessible by the public that allows the public to obtain electronic copies of all congressionally mandated reports and associated data, on one place. The Director may publish other reports on the online portal.

(2) EXISTING FUNCTIONALITY.—To the extent possible, the Director shall meet the requirements to publish congressionally mandated reports online and functionality under the authority of the Director.

(3) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out this subtitle, the Director shall consult with the Clerk of the House of Representatives, the Secretary of the Senate, and the Librarian of Congress regarding the requirements for and maintenance of congressionally mandated reports on the reports online portal.

(b) CONTENT AND FUNCTION.—The Director shall ensure that the reports online portal includes the following:

(1) Subject to subsection (c), with respect to each congressionally mandated report, each of the following:

(A) A citation to the statute, conference report, or resolution requiring the report.

(B) An electronic copy of the report, including any transmitted letter associated with the report, in an open format that is platform independent and that is available to the public without restrictions, including restrictions that would impede the re-use of the information in the report.

(C) The ability to retrieve a report, to the extent practicable, through searches based on each of the following:

(i) The title of the report.

(ii) The reporting Federal agency.

(iii) The date of publication.

(iv) Each congressional committee receiving the report, if applicable.

(v) The statute, resolution, or conference report requiring the report.

(vi) Subject tags.

(vii) A unique alphanumeric identifier for the report that is consistent across report editions.

(viii) The serial number, Superintendent of Documents number, or other identification number for the report, if applicable.

(ix) Key words.

(x) Full text search.

(2) Any other relevant information specified by the Director.

(b) CONTENT AND FUNCTION.—The Director shall ensure that the report is submitted to the reports online portal.

(2) Access to the report not later than 20 calendar days after its submission to Congress.

(F) To the extent practicable, a permanent means of accessing the report electronically.

(2) A means for bulk download of all congressionally mandated reports.

(3) A means for downloading individual reports as the result of a search.

(4) An electronic means for the head of each Federal agency to submit to the reports online portal each congressionally mandated report of the agency, as required by section 9304.

SEC. 9304. FEDERAL AGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES.

(a) SUBMISSION OF ELECTRONIC COPIES OF REPORTS.—Concurrently with the submission to Congress of each congressionally mandated report, the head of the Federal agency submitting the congressionally mandated report shall submit to the Director the information required under paragraphs (a) through (d) of section 9303(b)(4) with respect to the congressionally mandated report.

Nothing in this subtitle shall release a Federal agency of any other requirement to publish the congressionally mandated report on the online portal of the Federal agency or otherwise submit the congressionally mandated report to Congress or any committee of Congress, or subcommittee thereof.

(b) GUIDANCE.—Not later than 240 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the Director, shall provide guidance to agencies on the implementation of this subtitle.

(c) STRUCTURE OF SUBMITTED REPORT DATA.—The head of each Federal agency shall ensure that each congressionally mandated report submitted to the Director complies with the
open format criteria established by the Director in the guidance issued under subsection (b).

(4) POINT OF CONTACT.—The head of each Federal agency shall designate a point of contact for congressionally mandated reports.

(5) LIST OF REPORTS.—As soon as practicable from any source other than the Federal Government, or other office of the Senate or House of Representatives, a report submitted to the Director a list of congressionally mandated from the previous calendar year, in consultation with the Clerk of the House of Representatives, and the Select Committee on Ethics of the Senate, or other office of the Senate; or

(2) the Committee on Ethics of the House of Representatives, or other office of the House.

(b) MINIMUM CONTENT.—(1) the report required under subsection (a) with respect to an individual—

(1) when such individual first begins performing services described in such subparagraph;

(2) at the close of each calendar quarter during which such individual is performing such services; and

(3) when such individual ceases to perform such services.

Subtitle F—Solvency

SEC. 9501. SEVERABILITY.

If any provision of this title or amendment made by this title, the application of the provision or amendment to any person or circumstance, is held to be unconstitutional, the remainder of this title and amendments made by this title, and the application of the provisions and amendment to any person or circumstance, shall not be affected by the holding.

TITLE X—PRESIDENTIAL AND VICE PRESIDENTIAL TAX TRANSPARENCY

SEC. 10001. Presidential and Vice Presidential tax transparency.

SEC. 10001. PRESIDENTIAL AND VICE PRESIDENTIAL TAX TRANSPARENCY.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—(1) The term “covered candidate” means a candidate for President or Vice President.

(2) The term “major party” has the meaning given the term in section 9002 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(3) The term “income tax return” means, with respect to an individual, any return (as such term is defined in section 6103(b)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, except that such term shall not include declarations of estimated tax) of—

(A) such individual, other than information returns issued to persons other than such individual; or

(B) of any corporation, partnership, trust, or estate in which such individual holds, directly or indirectly, a significant interest as the sole, principal owner or the sole or principal beneficial owner (as such terms are defined in regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury or his delegate).

(4) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Treasury or the delegate of the Secretary.

(b) DISCLOSURE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Upon written request by the chairman of the Federal Election Commission under section 10001(b)(2) of the For the President and Vice President Act of 2021, not later than the date that is 15 days after the date of such request, the Secretary shall provide copies of any return which is so requested to officers and employees of the Federal Election Commission whose official duties include disclosure or redaction of such return under this paragraph.

(c) EXECUTION OF REQUEST.—In making a request under paragraph (1), the head of the Federal Election Commission shall redact information protected against identity theft, such as social security numbers.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 6103(p)(4) of such Code is amended—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A) by striking “or (22)” and inserting “(22), or (23)”;

(2) in paragraph (F)(ii) by striking “or (22)” and inserting “(22), or (23)”;

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Each amendment made by this subsection shall apply to disclosures made on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

The Speaker pro tempore of the House, and the Clerk, shall be debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on House Administration or their respective designees.

The gentleman from California (Ms. Lofgren) and the gentleman from Illinois, Mr. Rodney Davis, each shall control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Ms. Lofgren).
Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material on H.R. 1 into the Record.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

Ms. LOFGREN. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1, the For the People Act of 2021. Today, we can deliver this to the American people. We can deliver the gold standard of reforms to protect the right of Americans to vote. We can take a huge step to fulfill that promise in our Constitution of a more perfect Union.

More voters cast a ballot in the 2020 election than in history, in an election that has been called the most secure in American history by election security experts.

The last election, conducted during a once-in-a-generation pandemic, saw changes that made it easier for many Americans to vote, with reforms like absentee voting and early voting. It also put into stark focus what many of us already knew: deep inequities persist in our democratic system.

Now comes the backlash to the increase in voter participation. That record turnout with no credible instances of election irregularity, stimulated hundreds of bills in State legislatures to make it harder for Americans to vote in the future.

We should protect access to the ballot, not restrict it. H.R. 1 gives voters choices for how to cast their ballot. They want and need that.

The bill has a minimum of 15 days of early voting, minimum standards for the number and location of ballot drop boxes, a national standard for no-excuse absentee voting. It improves access for voters with disabilities, addresses challenges faced by Native American voters living on Tribal lands, and improves access for uniformed and overseas voters.

H.R. 1 ends the practice of disenfranchising Americans with a prior felony conviction who are no longer incarcerated. It unrigs the drawing of congressional district lines by requiring independent redistricting commissions, removing politics from the process and creating fairer maps.

H.R. 1 begins to remove the advantages of dark money and secret donors and lets our neighbors and communities regain their voice to fully participate in our political system.

H.R. 1 will amplify the voices of small donors with an alternative, voluntary matching system for financing campaigns by empowering small-dollar contributors, without any taxpayer funds.

The bill will save money and bolster the integrity of election administration. It makes improvements to our election security and requires States to use individual, durable, voter-verified paper ballots, a simple safeguard from cybersecurity threats that ensures an auditable paper trail.

H.R. 1 will also strengthen congressional and executive branch ethical standards.

Democracy is resilient, but the falsehoods spread in the lead-up to and following the 2020 election, as well as the shocking events right here on January 6, showed us all that democracy requires us to defend it.

I urge all my colleagues to support H.R. 1 and ensure all Americans have an equal voice in our democracy.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. CICILLINE).

Mr. CICILLINE. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1, the For the People Act, which would provide the most significant reform to our democratic system in decades.

This landmark legislation will strengthen our democracy by expanding access to the ballot, reforming campaign finance to reduce the corrupting influence of corporate money in political campaigns, and restoring ethics and integrity to government.

H.R. 1 will make it easier for millions of Americans to vote and significantly increase the number of voters in this country by implementing initiatives like automatic voter registration. It will also implement reforms that will hold elected officials to a higher ethical standard, such as requiring Presidential candidates to disclose their tax returns.

These are issues that I have introduced legislation on in the previous Congress, and I am proud that they are included in H.R. 1.

Finally, H.R. 1 will include the DISCLOSE Act, which I introduced to shine a light on unlimited spending that has overrun our elections. Without fixing our broken system and taking power from the special interests and returning it to the people of this country, it will be almost impossible to make progress on the issues
Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LOUDERMILK), a great member of the House Administration Committee, and my good friend.

Mr. LOUDERMILK. Madam Speaker, I rise, not only in opposition to this bill, but in support of the amendments. I rise especially to the attempt to nationalize our Federal elections, and the notion that people like Joseph Kirk, of Bartow County, Georgia, the elections superintendents have done a phenomenal job administering our elections. This bill is not as qualified as people here in this room as to how to run an election. More importantly, the idea that bureaucrats up here in Washington, D.C., can administer an election in Bartow County better than our elections supervisor can and has is a notion beyond compare.

In fact, this flies in the face of our Founders, especially those at the Constitutional Convention. You see, there were no secret Articulates. Article IV, Section 1, the Elections Clause, because the fear that was stated was that those in power could use that power to manipulate elections. This bill nationalizes our elections.

As a representative of the great State of Georgia, I know the impact of our elections, and they are too important and too valuable to the foundation of democracy to risk even the appearance of impropriety. The Election Official Integrity Act is a commonsense step toward restoring the American people’s confidence in our elections.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the adoptions of H.R. 1 and ensuring our Federal election officials work for the people.

Mr. LOUDERMILK. Madam Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LOUDERMILK). Madam Speaker, it may be a novel idea, but I stand firmly against Federal overreach in the constitutional responsibilities of State and local governments. Unfortunately, H.R. 1 flies in the face of our Governors, our secretaries of state, our local election officials, and, more importantly, the people of this Nation.

If there is any other reason to be against it is why an 800-page bill went to 11 committees and could only receive 2 hours of a hearing in the smallest committee in this body. The American people want to know why are you are hiding when you continue to ramrod legislation through.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I would just note for the record that I am not worried about the administrators, as qualified as people here in this room as to how to run an election. More importantly, the idea that bureaucrats up here in Washington, D.C., can administer an election in Bartow County better than our elections supervisor can and has is a notion beyond compare.

In fact, this flies in the face of our Founders, especially those at the Constitutional Convention. You see, there were no secret Articulates. Article IV, Section 1, the Elections Clause, because the fear that was stated was that those in power could use that power to manipulate elections. This bill nationalizes our elections.

As a representative of the great State of Georgia, I know the impact of our elections, and they are too important and too valuable to the foundation of democracy to risk even the appearance of impropriety. The Election Official Integrity Act is a commonsense step toward restoring the American people’s confidence in our elections.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the adoptions of H.R. 1 and ensuring our Federal election officials work for the people.

Mr. LOUDERMILK. Madam Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LOUDERMILK). Madam Speaker, it may be a novel idea, but I stand firmly against Federal overreach in the constitutional responsibilities of State and local governments. Unfortunately, H.R. 1 flies in the face of our Governors, our secretaries of state, our local election officials, and, more importantly, the people of this Nation.

If there is any other reason to be against it is why an 800-page bill went to 11 committees and could only receive 2 hours of a hearing in the smallest committee in this body. The American people want to know why are you are hiding when you continue to ramrod legislation through.

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elections run without transparency and oversight. I was sworn into office over 30 days later, after an exhaustive 100-day postelection count in the race for New York’s 22nd Congressional District. In the run-up to the 2020 election, New York Supreme Court Justice Andrew Cuomo rushed through a series of executive orders that mirrored many of the policies the Democrats are now proposing in H.R. 1. The result was one of the most poorly run elections in the entire nation. It was a disgrace to our system of government.

If H.R. 1 had become law, I can confidently say it would have been virtually impossible to conduct a fair and transparent election. New York’s election debacle reveals H.R. 1’s real-world consequences.

If this legislation had been adopted, the errors exposed in my race wouldn’t be the exception. It would have been bureaucratic chaos and that would have been the norm.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. DOGGETT of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from New York.

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, it is clear we need reforms to restore confidence in our elections, but what my Democratic colleagues are proposing would dramatically change election law. The American people are demanding a commonsense framework for election reform that strengthens security without compromising integrity.

Congress should focus on delivering results to the American people, not perpetuating their own power at an irreverable and grave cost to our democratic principles.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. LEVIN).

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to this bill. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to this bill. I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. VALADAO).

Mr. VALADAO. Madam Speaker, I thank the ranking member for yielding.

Mr. LEVIN. Madam Speaker, I yield today in opposition to H.R. 1, the For the People Act. This piece of legislation undermines State authority over voter registration and election procedures while federally mandating practices we have seen fail in California during the 2018 and 2020 election cycles.

California’s motor voter law automatically registers people to vote when registering their car or applying for a license with the DMV. This program was found to create over 120,000 errors, including registering at least 1,500 residents who were not eligible to vote.

Senator Padilla, while serving as California’s secretary of state at that time, stated these mistakes “threatened to undermine public confidence in the program.”

H.R. 1 exposes our elections to voter fraud and is especially dangerous at a time when so many Americans are questioning the validity of election results. I ask my colleagues to join me in voting “no” on H.R. 1.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I am happy to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. EVANJED).

Mr. EVANJED of California. Madam Speaker, our democracy is in grave danger. We are seeing unremitting efforts across the country to suppress voters and limit access to the ballot box, particularly in communities of color. We are seeing record-breaking waves of dark money backing candidates and campaigns with no transparency or accountability, and we are seeing efforts to increase partisan gerrymandering that allows politicians to pick and choose who they represent.

It is wrong and it is undemocratic. We need to make it easier to vote for those who are legally eligible otherwise to vote, not harder to do so. We need more transparency in our campaigns, not less. We need to strengthen ethics rules, not weaken them, and we need to pass the For the People Act.

This bill will transform our democracy and return power to the people, where it belongs. It will ensure that every American who is legally eligible to vote can do so easily and securely. It will crack down on the culture of corruption that has defined Washington for far too long. It will finally end the era of dark money in our politics that has plagued this House for years.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to defend our democracy and to support this legislation.

Mr. DOGGETT. Today’s bill favors turning out the votes, not throwing them out. Let’s protect American democracy which worships, above all, the voice of the people expressed through free and fair elections; not bowing before the golden idol of one who has betrayed our country.

Mr. ROY ODIEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LUCAS), a very good friend.

Mr. LUCAS. Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 1.

As the ranking member of the Science, Space, and Technology Committee, I am particularly concerned that H.R. 1 would adversely impact the work done by the National Institute of Standards and Technology on election security.

NIST is responsible for conducting research on voting technologies, developing standards and best practices that help ensure the security of voting systems, and providing technical guidance to the Election Assistance Commission. In short, NIST’s work is critical to helping States and localities conduct safe, secure, and accessible elections.

So why doesn’t this bill include any of the technical feedback provided by NIST last year?

I am deeply concerned that we are limiting NIST’s ability to do their job. This is just one example of how this rushed attempt to score political points has given precedence over putting forth meaningful legislation. This legislation would do more harm than good. I urge my colleagues to reject the bill.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I am honored to yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. CROA).

Ms. CROA. Madam Speaker, across this country, people of all political persuasions are profoundly frustrated with the conflicts of interest and divisive politics practiced in this town.

And who could blame them for their frustration?

Their votes are being suppressed by power-hungry folks at all costs. The people are tired of the revolving door of lobbyists and special interests working to diminish their trust in this institution and in us.

But maybe that is what some people want, for Americans to become so frustrated, bone tired of standing in long lines, that they just give up and go home.

It is long past time that Congress brought a little more Minnesota common sense to America in clean and fair elections. That is exactly what this bill will accomplish by expanding voting rights, ending the dominance of dark money in our politics, and finally addressing partisan gerrymandering.

We must reform if we are to hold on to this democracy. Madam Speaker, we must do it now.

Mr. ROY ODIEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Arizona (Mrs. LESKO), my good friend.

Mrs. LESKO. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I rise in opposition to this bill.

H.R. 1 is for the politicians, not the people. The bill weaponizes the Federal Election Commission, infringes on
States’ rights, and drastically limits freedom of speech.

Arizona requires voter ID and prohibits ballot harvesting. H.R. 1 will undo Arizona laws.

This bill also puts people’s privacy and security at risk by requiring the disclosure of personal information for political advertisers. The bill is solely designed to benefit politicians from one particular political party.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote against this bill.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, may I inquire as to the time remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from California has 1 minute remaining.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I am delighted to yield 1 1/2 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. JONES), who is a new Member from New York and an expert in election law.

Mr. JONES. Madam Speaker, today, we legislate for the people.

Our passage of H.R. 1 is deeply personal to me. Unlike many of the people we are used to seeing in our politics, I don’t come from money or from a political family. I was raised by a single mother who worked multiple jobs to make ends meet, and we still needed Section 8 housing and food stamps to get by.

Of course, my family struggles could be traced to one common cause, and that is our broken democracy. At the root of why housing, higher education, and healthcare are out of reach for so many millions of Americans is the fact that our democracy does not reflect the will of the American people. Independent redistricting commissions would change that.

When I ran for Congress, the first question political insiders asked me wasn’t what I would be campaigning on or how much support I had in my community, but, rather, how much money could I raise?

Public campaign financing would change that.

Many people were surprised that I defeated a millionaire who worked multiple jobs to make ends meet, and we still needed Section 8 housing and food stamps to get by.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield 1/2 minutes to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WOMACK), my good friend.

Mr. WOMACK. Madam Speaker, I thank the ranking member for the opportunity to speak and information for political advertisers. The bill is solely designed to benefit politicians from one particular political party.

Madam Speaker, you don’t need to identify as a Republican or a Democrat to want fair and free elections. Frankly, ask any American and I am pretty sure they will agree that the cornerstone to any legitimate democracy is the ability to freely choose their leaders.

I am also pretty sure that they will agree that money has a way of corrupting just about anything—including elections; which is why I shake my head at the language in this bill that provides a 6-to-1 match for donations up to $200. Last Congress, they tried to do it with taxpayer money. That didn’t go over so well, so now they try again; this time, the taxpayers shell out to accomplish the same result.

I also believe that most Americans will agree that the right to vote is among the most precious we have. It is more important than getting on an airline or buying an adult beverage. It is more important than cashing a paycheck at your local bank.

Why would we weaken our ability to prove certain the identities of people voting in our elections is a mystery to me.

Trying to convince us that H.R. 1 is for the people is like saying, You are with the Federal Government and you are here to help us.

No, they are here to protect the will of the American people. Independent redistricting commissions would change that.

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name was John Lewis, an acolyte of Martin Luther King Jr. and a servant for the people.

This is a very, very important bill. One could say that everything else we do depends on this bill because, in our democracy, government only works if those who believe in the sacredness of the Union as it faces the evils of slavery, sedition, and secession.

That war was a war to not only give freedom to other human beings, but it was also a war, at its heart, which tried to live out the creed that all men are created equal; endowed by their creator—not by this Congress, not by the majority, not by the Constitution, not by the President, or any of us, but by their creator—with certain unalienable rights. In a democracy, voting, knowing who you are voting for, knowing who you are supporting, who you are voting for are critical.

Even in that dark moment of the Civil War, when so many were losing hope and faith in the success of our grand American experiment in democracy and constitutional government, President Lincoln encouraged us to renew our faith as Americans in that project.

Now, in 2021, though the crises we face are different than in 1863, our Nation is clearly facing grave challenges. January 6 taught us that. January 6 took us by the scruff of the neck and shook us and said, “Beware, lest you lose your democracy.”

A pandemic has led to the deaths of more than half a million Americans. Its subsequent economic crisis has put more than 10 million out of work and millions of families and small businesses are struggling to get by.

Deep and political divisions threaten to tear our country apart with misinformation and mistrust as dangerous to our Republic as any virus or recession.

Madam Speaker, the American people must have faith that their government is truly theirs; their collective expression and will is heard; and that it can deliver results that improve their lives and offer them hope for a better future. That is what H.R. 1 does, the For the People Act; Reassert the American people that their government will always work for them.

First, it will protect the sacred right to vote—protect the sacred right to vote—by ensuring that every American can participate equally and without undue barriers to casting their ballots.

No counting of jelly beans in a jar; no reciting verbatim the Constitution and Declaration of Independence; no poll tax; no effort to make it more difficult for people to register, more difficult to vote.

Bloody Sunday, a stark example of how committed some people were and some people still are, to not permitting people who they think will vote against them to vote.

H.R. 1 would be the most consequential piece of voting rights legislation enacted since we passed the Help America Vote Act, which I was proud to sponsor.

Second, this bill roots out corruption in government by increasing ethical standards and limiting the corrosive effects of dark money in our political campaigns.

My mother used to say: “Consider the source.” Consider who is talking to you. And if you don’t know who is contributing, if you don’t know who is paying for those ads for Citizens for a Better America, who is against that. But you don’t know who it is. You don’t know what interest they have that they are paying out millions of dollars to promote.

By forcing super-PACs to disclose their donors, H.R. 1 will ensure that American voters know exactly who is paying for campaign ads they see or hear. And by requiring Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates to release 10 years’ worth of tax returns, as most have done—with one singular, stark exception—it will provide voters and the public to ensure those that seeking our highest offices are free from conflicts of interest. Are they representing themselves or are they representing the people? Third, H.R. 1 will end partisan redistricting, which says, “You pick your voters instead of the other way around. Too many voting districts are drawn in a way to limit voters’ voices in our democracy.

So many times we saw the central city cut up into pies, where you had a sliver of the city here, a sliver of the city here. And all of you know that happened. What was it designed to do? To take away the voting power of those who the people in the State legislature did not like.

Now, most of you are too young to remember Baker v. Carr and Reynolds v. Sims, when the Supreme Court said, “Oh, no, we are not representing trees, we are representing people, and you are going to have to district.”

And then we had subsequent legislation which said, you cannot make it impossible for certain constituencies to elect people who look like them, talk like them, think like them. That has never been the case. We do it this way by looking through a national approach that creates, as this bill does, a nonpartisan process in each State.

Madam Speaker, lastly, H.R. 1 includes a number of provisions to increase transparency and accountability so that the American people can see what their elected officials are doing and make sure they are doing their jobs properly.

Through all of these steps, House Democrats will deliver on our pledge to renew American faith in government by making sure it works for the people.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation so consequential to our democracy and our ability to deliver results for our constituents.

But I also ask the American people to join me in believing in what government can achieve when we take steps to make it work in the way our Founders intended.

With the challenges we are facing, with the divisions and mistrust that abound, let us seize this moment, as Lincoln once did, to rededicate ourselves to the work of ensuring that “government of the people, by the people, and for the people, and for the people shall not perish from this Earth.”

Let us do so with a strong—and my hope is bipartisan—vote to pass H.R. 1 and send it to the Senate.

Mr. ROY. Will the gentleman from Maryland yield?

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I would be glad to yield to my friend.

Mr. ROY. Madam Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman yielding.

Madam Speaker, as the gentleman knows, we have had a dialogue back and forth about the need for amendment, the need for debate on the floor. And what I would ask the gentleman is, for example, if the gentleman would agree that a generation ago President Jimmy Carter, Democrat, and James Baker, Republican—hardly ideologues from the standpoint of division that we see today—agree that there are issues of bail and balance.

And what I would ask is: Why don’t we have a debate here? We have problems and concerns and potential fraud with mail-in ballots that is a nonpartisan concern? That is one example, and there are bunch. Why do we not have that debate robustly here on the floor for the American people to see, if we are talking about transparency?

And I ask the question respectfully of the gentleman from Maryland.
Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, just for the viewers on C-Span who wondered why time stopped here in the House for that minute the majority leader spoke, I want to remind them all that is what we call the majority leader’s magic minute.

Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PFLUGER), my good friend and one of the most thoughtful members.

Mr. PFLUGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 1, a twisted conglomerate of partisan policies meant to consolidate powers here in Washington, D.C., to fully cement the swamp.

This bill bans voter ID requirements nationwide. It permanently expands mail-in voting and legalizes ballot harvesting.

Madam Speaker, I am particularly disturbed by the fact that, if this bill passes, taxpayer dollars will be directly funneled to congressional candidates and campaigns. The folks in my district, the 11th District of Texas, absolutely do not approve of the hard-earned dollars funneled for TV attack ads of any candidate, much less a candidate they don’t support.

Madam Speaker, we need real, commonsense reforms to strengthen our election system. H.R. 1 does just the opposite. I urge my colleagues to have this debate, to have a transparent debate, to talk about these issues, and to come to the table for a reasonable, thoughtful debate so that we can get to the real issues that the American people deserve.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN), chairman of the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties.

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, this is an important and good bill. It is a comprehensive bill that takes in a lot of issues that are important to giving people the opportunity to vote and the opportunity to elect their leaders in fair manners. The most important, I think, as Leader HOYER addressed all the points, is redistricting, to have nonpartisan redistricting commissions decide how the State legislatures and the congressional seats will be designed so that they are geographic, understandable, and done without the intent of electing a particular party to that position.

Madam Speaker, right now, most of the districts are determined in the primary; that is why we don’t have competitive districts and people coming closer to the center to try to work together.

This bill also has the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Act. John Lewis was the conscience of the Congress. He almost gave his life in Selma, Alabama, to try to get the right to vote for people. Nobody should have to do that.

Mr. BIGGS. Madam Speaker, the majority leader just said: Everything we do depends on this bill.

I guess he is right because the Democrats are trying to tip the scales of elections to their party. Besides giving the power in Madison, in H.R. 1, funding political with taxpayer dollars, and preventing the use of voter identification laws, Democrats will prevent ballot harvesting and mandate nationwide mail-in balloting, which Jimmy Carter himself said is a recipe for fraud.

Madam Speaker, Democrats are so enamored of power, it appears that they want to legalize cheating in elections. If that isn’t enough for you, they want 18-year-olds to be able to register to vote, as well as felons and illegal aliens to be able to vote. What could possibly go wrong?

Madam Speaker, while most in the country have some doubt as to the integrity of our elections across both parties, any moves across the aisle want to ensure we never have an honest election again.

This bill is a dubious path on which to embark. If we do not stop it again, it will become increasingly difficult to depart to a future that actually restores trust in America.

Madam Speaker, when I hear the argument of voter suppression, I say we had more voters in the last election for President than ever—more than ever. This bill is a mistake. It is a waste. It is unnecessary. I urge people to vote “no.”

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Mrs. TRAHAN).

Mrs. TRAHAN. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1, and I commend the Speaker, the majority leader, Chair LOFGREN, and Representative SARBANES for their unwavering commitment to the passing of Vernon Jordan.

This is a great tribute to the great man and a great honor to the congressman who made this happen. It is a great honor to the congressman who made this happen. It is a great honor to the congressman who made this happen.

Mr. STEIL. Madam Speaker, we must protect voting integrity. The bill before us today, H.R. 1, weakens the integrity of our elections. The bill weakens critical voter integrity provisions. Let me explain.

Madam Speaker, first, the bill guts voter ID protections. For example, in Wisconsin, a State with strong voter ID laws, this law would allow an individual to vote without an ID by simply providing a sworn statement. That is it.

Are there other areas where we would allow individuals to avoid our laws so easily? Could you board an airplane by simply providing a statement as to who you are? The purpose of this provision is to weaken the integrity of our elections.

Madam Speaker, wait, there is more. This bill legalizes ballot harvesting. In Wisconsin, we saw a clerk in Madison conduct ballot collections in broad daylight. This bill would legalize ballot harvesting nationwide. The purpose of this provision is to weaken the integrity of our elections.

Madam Speaker, if that is not bad enough, just wait. There is more. This bill allows Federal funding of congressional campaigns. It would give government money to fund politicians’ reelection campaigns. It would give government money to buy negative TV ads. I am not sure about all my colleagues in this House, but I can tell you that not once has an individual told me that the problem with our elections is there is just not enough money.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, we need to strengthen our election system. We need to protect the integrity of our elections. This bill nationalizes our elections, weakens voter integrity, is an affront to the First Amendment, and is a poor use of government money.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing this bill, H.R. 1.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I just received word that the legendary civil rights leader John Lewis has passed. In addition to our beloved John Lewis, I feel we are considering this bill in his memory and also to honor those who came before us who worked so hard to preserve our American democracy.

Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI), the Speaker of the House.

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I join the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LOFGREN) in her beautiful acknowledgment of the passing of Vernon Jordan.

Madam Speaker, I also commend her for her great leadership in honoring
our Constitution with this For the People legislation. I am fond of saying of Chairwoman LOFGREN that she has so much experience, so much knowledge, such deep values about our Constitution and about our electoral system and how they are connected. I thank her for her tremendous leadership.

Madam Speaker, I also thank John SARBANES for his long-term dedication to this For the People legislation so that we can have elections that enable people to participate more fully. That is what this is all about. Mr. SARBANES chaired the Democracy Reform Task Force. He is the godfather of this bill. His determination, his deliberation, and his dedication to democracy have brought us to this important moment for the American people.

Madam Speaker, I am especially pleased that this moment is happening in March when it is Women's History Month. As we have heard, March 8 was the first day of International Women's Day and it has been named in honor of the women who have been fighting for women's rights for a century. I am absolutely certain of that in terms of women, and this legislation does just that.

Madam Speaker, “We the people,” the first words of the Preamble to the Constitution, how appropriate that that is what this legislation is called. I come to this conversation, not just as Speaker of the House, but as a person who, for years, was a leader in the California Democratic Party. Our purpose was to remove obstacles of participation for Democrats or Republicans. That is what the law requires. That was the right thing to do. Whether it was in registration or getting out the vote, we had to be nonpartisan. That is what this legislation is.

Madam Speaker, it is very interesting in the rules of the House that we can have people misrepresent the facts, but if we call them on it, our words are taken down for mistrusting the integrity of the House. But let’s be very clear: There is no public funding use of taxpayer money for congressional races in this legislation, no matter what you hear someone else say. There will be an amendment on the floor.

Madam Speaker, speaking of amendments, there are 56 amendments. The list takes pages and pages and pages, so this will take a couple of days to deal with. This idea that we don’t have a full and full amendment process, let’s not talk about process. Let’s talk about the policy and what we hope to achieve.

The first 300 pages of this bill were written by John Lewis to eliminate voter suppression that has become rampant in our country. How do we say to our Founders, “We salute you for what you have done, and we are going to do everything in our power to make sure we support the vote.” It is so inconsistent. We see even just in recent days a torrent of pieces of legislation to reduce voter participation. So, that is what we are going to do.

Madam Speaker, another aspect of this that distorts our democracy is the partisan gerrymandering. That is why I salute the distinguished chairwoman for her leadership for a long time now in putting forth redistricting by way of commission.

The people should choose their politicians. Politicians should not be choosing their voters and gerrymandering. This legislation does that.

Part of voter suppression that people don’t always recognize is the suffocation of the airwaves of big, dark, special interest money.

And one aspect of this bill that has such popular appeal is the fact that people will realize if we reduce the role of big, dark money in politics, we increase the voices of the people. We will have a better chance to preserve our planet if big, dark money, special interest money is not weighing in.

We have a better chance of protecting our children from gun violence with background check legislation if big, dark money, in terms of our gun lobbies, is not weighing in. We have a chance to do something about healthcare. We have the chance to increase paychecks. The list goes on and on.

Big, dark money has been an obstacle to progress for America’s working families, suppressing the ability of people to bargain collectively, suppressing the rights of workers in our country. So, again, this is, as Mr. SARBANES says, this caffeinates all the other issues because it gives people confidence that it really can happen, that we really can pass legislation that is not dominated, and the debate of it is not suffocated. The airwaves suffocated big, dark money.

Of course, we have to look at what is happening in terms of misinformation in the social media and the rest. And what we want to do is to clear the air: clear the air of that big, dark money; clear the air of political gerrymandering; and clear the air of the voter suppression that is out there.

Just last night, the Georgia House passed a draconian new voter restriction bill, which would end weekend voting, slash the number of mail ballot drop boxes, impose restrictive voter ID for mail ballots, among other actions. They know that these measures are losers with the American people when they oppose some of the issues that are very popular in the public domain. They know that big money and voter suppression is their path to victory, and that is suppressing the ability of people to the vote. These voter suppression tactics are fundamentally discriminatory.

In 2018, 70 percent of the Georgia voters purged from the rolls were African American. And nationwide, counties with larger minority populations had larger minority populations and workers per voter. In fact, 1 in 13 Black Americans cannot vote due to disenfranchisement laws nationwide.

We must ensure that all voters have a voice in their democracy, particularly in light of many grave challenges that our Nation faces today. Strong, clean, ethical leadership for the people is needed to tackle today’s crisis, ranging from the pandemic and economic crisis to supporting the nation in racial equality and justice, and, as I mentioned earlier, the surging climate crisis.

The For The People Act will meet this moment. Again, the moment: restoring the public to government, and re-empowering our leaders to fight in the people’s interest, not the special interest. It will combat big, dark money in politics, taking on the power of special interests, forcing disclosure, reining in the lobbyist influence and empowering small donors.

I do believe that one of the most undemocratic acts of the Supreme Court of the United States in its history was the so-called Citizens United decision.

How could the Justices of the Supreme Court ever have made such a decision?

I don’t know if they examined their conscience in light of what has happened since then with big, dark money weighing in. And they gave very little opportunity—usually when the Court makes a decision, Congress can act, change the law, change the perspective, make it more constitutional, whatever the question is; but not with Citizens United. They went all out, closed every window to any opportunity to make change in the House of Representatives, except one: Disclosure.

Disclosure. They said, okay, you can pass a law that says you must disclose. When this decision was made, we tried to have a disclosure act. We had 99 votes in the Senate, not 60. So we couldn’t pass it because the Republicans in the Senate said, No, we cannot insist on disclosure.

When that happened, the Chamber of Commerce, it was reported that they said, oh, if we had to disclose, our members would not be giving of their charitable donations because the Republi
cans in the Senate said, No, we cannot insist on disclosure.

So the Republicans supported low disclosure. The money flowed and continues to flow. It must be stopped.

Now, it would take a constitutional amendment to overturn Citizens United, and I think we should strive for that. However, in the meantime, it would take an act of Congress to say: You are proud of who you are supporting in a big, dark money way?

Disclose. Let’s have disclosure. The public has a right to know, your employees have a right to know, your customers, your clients. The public has a right to know how you are weighing in against their interests, against clean air for their children, clean safety in
terms of water safety in their neighborhoods in terms of gun violence protection, safety in terms of preserving the planet, safety in terms of issues that relate to the health. The list goes on and on.

There is a direct connection between the suppression of the vote; the suffocation of the airways with big, dark money; and the health and well-being of the American people.

So this bill will combat big, dark money and politics. As I said, it will expand voting rights, secure and accurate elections, guarding elections from foreign interference. Let me say that again.

Why would the Republicans oppose guarding the elections from foreign interference?

This is one of the most popular aspects of this legislation in the public.

Again, the For the People Act would hold elected officials accountable, establish strong ethics, establish conflict of interest rules for all government officials to ensure that public officials are working for the public good.

The For the People Act is unifying, supported by a majority of the American people across the country. Democrats, Republicans, Independents, more than 170 civil rights groups, environmental, faith-based, consumer protection, and gun safety groups, all of whom know this legislation is urgently needed.

Two examples. Stacey Abrams of Fair Fight wrote yesterday: “The For the People Act understands the facets of free and fair elections: mitigating voter suppression, advancing a fair redistricting process, and empowering small dollar donors to have a more prominent role in our elections. Together, this comprehensive bill signals a restoration of our Nation’s commitment to the most durable democratic Republic.”

I will say it again: Together, this comprehensive bill signals a restoration of our Nation’s commitment to the world’s most durable democratic Republic, the United States of America.

Passing and enacting H.R. 1 will put the American people back in charge of the Republic, paving the way for transformative progress in terms of policy for our country, for the future, for our children. With this legislation, we can build a better future for the people, advancing justice, opportunity, and progress for families in every ZIP Code.

Madam Speaker, to restore our democracy and to advance progress for the people, I urge a strong vote for H.R. 1, the For the People Act.

Again, I express my appreciation to Madam Chair LOFGREN, JOHN SARBANES, and so many others; MONAIRE JONES, speaking for the freshman class and what it means to young people to come into Congress not to be blocked by big, dark money and foreign influence in our elections.

Vote against foreign influence in elections. Vote for H.R. 1.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, no matter how many times Speaker PELOSI and the Democrats continue to say that there is not a publicly funded program to pay money directed to Members’ congressional campaigns, it doesn’t make her statement true.

In this bill, it is the first-ever corporate money since 1907 that is laundered through the Federal Government, through the Department of Treasury, and goes right into our own congressional campaigns, up to $7 million, using 2020 numbers.

Madam Speaker, I am angry that the Speaker continues to talk about States, like Georgia, following the law to make sure that their voter rolls are complete and accurate when, in her own home State of California, the corrupt secretary of state would not even commit to removing over 400,000 deceased or moribund voter rolls, and many of them, if not all of them, got live ballots.

This bill would place the corruption that we see in California and export it nationwide. Let me tell you, that corrupt secretary of state, huh, what a deal, we now call him a U.S. Senator.

Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. Roy).

Mr. ROY. Madam Speaker, I would point out that the Speaker of the House came to the floor and used her magic minute, but didn’t stay on the floor and debate. There is no debate on this floor.

And then the Speaker said that there were amendments, 56 amendments. Forty-nine of them are Democratic amendments, hand-selected by a small group in the Rules Committee. Forty-nine are Democratic amendments.

So don’t buy into the Kabuki theater that you are seeing on the floor of the House of Representatives.

You know what? I can’t ask to take down the words of the Speaker, even though the essence of her argument is that I am a bigot. Let’s be very clear. The arguments being distilling on the floor today is that Republicans, my colleagues and I, that we are bigots.

Why? Because they use fancy words like “voter suppression” to say that we are wanting to tamp down people’s access to polls.

Nothing can be further from the truth. Heaven forbid we want to use voter identification. Heaven forbid we want to honor the will of the people through their legislature in the States passing rules to make sure that our system is in fact working, using voter identification that the American people use to fly, that the American people use to do everything else. If I demand that, I am a bigot.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD a number of letters, the first from more than 150 groups urging support for the For the People Act, including the American Friends Service Committee, the Center for Disability Rights, Common Cause, Franciscan Action Network, the League of Conservation Voters, NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice and the Sierra Club.

DECLARATION FOR AMERICAN DEMOCRACY, Februrar 5, 2021. Re More than one hundred and fifty Groups urge support for the For the People Act (H.R. 1/ S. 1).

DEAR MEMBER OF CONGRESS: On behalf of the below organizations, on the behalf of millions of Americans, we write in strong support of H.R. 1/ S. 1, the For the People Act. This transformational democracy reform package would help return power to every American family and amplify the voices of communities that have historically been marginalized in our democracy.

For far too long, special interests, wealthy donors, and vote suppressors have dominated our politics and attempted to silence the voices of everyday Americans, especially in Blue States and Red States. The For the People Act would help shift power away from bad actors and transfer it to “we the people.”

The 2020 election has underscored the urgent need for transformational democracy reform. Across the nation, Americans experienced unprecedented voter suppression, historic levels of dark money spent to drown out the voices of everyday Americans, and rampant ethical abuses. One bill, the For the People Act, addresses many of these problems and would help to make this pro-voter, anti-corruption legislation a first priority in the 117th Congress.

Common-sense reforms in the For the People Act, most of which are deeply popular across the political spectrum and have passed in many states and localities, aim to accomplish three overarching goals: (1) protecting and strengthening the sacred right to vote, (2) ending the dominance of big money in politics, and (3) implementing anti-corruption, pro-ethics measures to clean up government.

Many of the critical issues that our nation faces—ensuring quality, affordable health care, addressing climate change, and achieving racial justice, to name just a few—cannot be fully solved until we fix our broken democracy. Wealthy special interests have too often been able to grip on the status quo, and we need to first unlock this stranglehold that they have on our political system.

We therefore urge you to support and vote for H.R. 1/ S. 1, the For the People Act, early in the 117th Congress to help put the people back in charge of our democracy.

Sincerely,

DECLARATION FOR AMERICAN DEMOCRACY (DFAD), African American Ministers In Action, American Federation of Teachers (AFT), American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, American Promise, Americans for Financial Reform, Americans for Tax Fairness, Bend The Arc, Brady United Against Gun Violence, Brennan Center for Justice, Center for American Progress, Center for Disability Rights, Center for Media and Democracy, Center for Popular Democracy, Clean Elections for Arizona, Common Cause, Declaration for American Democracy, Democracy, Center for Environmental Health, Center for Responsive Politics, Center for Reinventing Government, Center for Responsible Politics in Washington (CREW), Clean Water Action, Climate Justice & Policy Project, Climate Reality Project, Coalition to Stop Gun Violence, Common Cause, Communications Workers of America, Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good
March 2, 2021

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — HOUSE

H981


National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA (NCC), National Council of Jewish Women, NARAL Pro-Choice America, National Association of Social Workers. coercive boycotts, in response, can be used to support the movement for reproductive and gender justice. It is also critical to ensure that voting rights are protected, especially for communities of color and other historically marginalized groups.

Arizona Advocacy Network
Chispa Arizona
Fuerte Arts Movement
Living United for Change in Arizona (LUCHA)
National Council of Jewish Women Arizona Planned Parenthood Advocates of Arizona Progress Arizona
Rural Arizona Action
Sierra Club—Grand Canyon (Arizona) Chapter

SELECTED STATE/LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

ARIZONA
Arizona Advocacy Network
Chispa Arizona
Fuerte Arts Movement
Living United for Change in Arizona (LUCHA)
National Council of Jewish Women Arizona Planned Parenthood Advocates of Arizona Progress Arizona
Rural Arizona Action
Sierra Club—Grand Canyon (Arizona) Chapter

NEW HAMPSHIRE
Coalition for Open Democracy and Open Democracy Action
Indivisible New Hampshire
New Hampshire Independent Voters
NH Ranked Choice Voting
New Hampshire Voters Restoring Democracy
New Hampshire Youth Movement
NH Voters’ Club
350 New Hampshire
603 Forward

Vermont, Virginia, and Washington. The attorneys general of all of these States have written in support of H.R. 1.


SUPPORT H.R. 1, THE FOURTH PEOPLES ACT
DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: On behalf of The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, a coalition of more than 220 national organizations committed to promoting and protecting the civil and human rights of all persons in the United States, and the 82 undersigned organizations, we write in strong support of H.R. 1, the For the People Act. We are pleased that Speaker Pelosi has announced that the Senate leadership has today announced it intends to introduce this critical bill as S. 1.

H.R. 1, the For the People Act, is a comprehensive measure that would eliminate restrictive practices, and once again, ensure that all Americans have the right to vote. It is a civil rights issue. And the need for legislative action is urgent. The U.S. House of Representatives passed the For the People Act in March 2019, and we urge that Speaker Pelosi remain committed to making this bill a top priority in the new Congress.

Recent and deadly attacks on the U.S. Capitol by far-right extremists attempting to overturn the free, fair, and secure 2020 presidential election was a catastrophic reminder of the fragility of our democracy. This violent insurrection did not happen in a vacuum. It was paired with numerous hur-
Restoring voting rights for formerly incarcerated people: H.R. 1 would restore voting rights for people with felony convictions who have finished their sentence, a necessary reparation for centuries of disenfranchisement and racially violent past. This would re-enfranchise approximately 4.7 million voters nationwide. Reforming felony disenfranchisement laws is a means of redressing systemic racism and ensuring that, for over 1.4 million people, voting should not be a “use it or lose it” right.

Prohibiting deceptive practices and voter intimidation: H.R. 1 would ban the distribution of false information about elections to hinder or discourage voting. This provision is particularly important in an era in which Facebook and other digital platforms have been readily manipulated to spread misinformation about elections and voting rights to vulnerable communities. The bill also increases penalties for intimidating a voter for the purpose of interfering with their right to vote or causing them to vote for or against a candidate.

Reforming redistricting: H.R. 1 would be a milestone in the battle against the extreme partisan gerrymandering our country has witnessed in recent years, by requiring states to draw congressional districts using independent redistricting commissions that are balanced in terms of party representation and diversity of the region. It would establish fair redistricting criteria and safeguard voting rights for communities of color.

Modernizing election administration: H.R. 1 would reauthorize the Election Assistance Commission—an independent, bipartisan commission that plays a vital role in ensuring the reliability and security of voting equipment used in our nation’s elections. It would also promote election reliability and security by requiring voter-verified permanent paper ballots and enhanced poll worker recruitment and training. And H.R. 1 would prohibit state election administrators from taking an active part in a political campaign over which they have supervisory authority. In 2021.

Committing to restoring the Voting Rights Act (“VRA”): H.R. 1 contains a commitment to restoring the landmark VRA and updating its preclearance provision, which is crucial to prevent racial discrimination in the voting process. VRA restoration is being pursued as a separate legislative track that will involve investigatory and evidentiary hearings, thus enabling Congress to update the preclearance coverage formula and develop a full record on the continuing problem of racial discrimination in voting. In 2006, the VRA was reauthorized on a unanimous vote in the Senate and a near-unanimous vote in the House. We need the same type of broad and bipartisan support for restoring the VRA today.

H.R. 1 would also make significant advances in this area: campaign finance and ethics reform. It would correct the rampant corruption flowing from the corrosive power of money in our elections. It would replace the current finance system that empowers the super-rich and big corporations with one that relies on small donors and public matching funds. It would end secret political action committees and force discourse on all election-related spending. And it would call for a constitutional amendment to overturn the disturbing Citizens United decision that made it impossible to restrict outside spending by corporations or billionaires. In addition, H.R. 1 addresses our government’s inherent conflicts of interest by requiring the development of a code of conduct for Supreme Court Justices to enhance accountability on ethics and recusal issues; overhauling our electoral politics to strengthen federal ethics oversight; establishing more robust conflict of interest requirements for government officials; prohibiting politicians from using taxpayer dollars to settle allegations of employment discrimination; and requiring presidents to disclose their tax returns.

The For the People Act provides a North Star for the democracy reform agenda. It is a bold, comprehensive reform package that offers solutions to a broken democracy. Repealing and modernizing our voting system goes hand in hand with reforms that address the rampant corruption flowing from the corrosive power of money in our elections. It would replace the current campaign finance system that fuels the rampant corruption flowing from the corrosive power of money in our elections. It would replace the current campaign finance system that fuels the rampant corruption flowing from the corrosive power of money in our elections. It would replace the current campaign finance system that fuels the rampant corruption flowing from the corrosive power of money in our elections. It would replace the current campaign finance system that fuels the rampant corruption flowing from the corrosive power of money in our elections. It would replace the current campaign finance system that fuels the rampant corruption flowing from the corrosive power of money in our elections. It would replace the current campaign finance system that fuels the rampant corruption flowing from the corrosive power of money in our elections.
introduced to restrict voting access—four times the number of similar bills introduced last year. This new push for voter suppression follows the 2020 election, where a record number of Americans exercised their right to vote. Offering Americans new and convenient methods of voting, including expanded absentee and mail-in voting options, had the dual benefit of protecting the public health during the COVID–19 pandemic and enabling greater turnout.

Described by former Attorney General Barr and others that there was no evidence of widespread fraud or irregularity in the 2020 election, state legislators have seized upon former President Trump’s baseless voter fraud allegations to curtail mail-in voting options, impose stringent voter ID requirements, limit voter registration opportunities, and even more significantly, purge voting rolls. In the wake of a safe and secure election, which enabled greater levels of voter participation than in over a century, we should be building on this progress, not dismantling it.

The Act includes several measures that would neutralize these cynical efforts at voter suppression by improving access to the ballot. Voters in many states face the frustrations of antiquated, error-ridden voter registration systems. The Act would modernize voter registration by requiring states to implement online registration, establish automatic voter registration, and prohibit unnecessary restrictions on the voting role. The Act also addresses discriminatory voter identification laws by requiring states to permit voters in federal elections to submit a sworn statement to meet ID requirements. Early voting voting provisions contained in the Act would expand access to federal elections by providing for at least 15 days of early voting at accessible locations and making available for at least 15 days of early voting at accessible locations and making available

The Act also contains important changes to campaign finance to address the concerning rise of dark money in federal elections. Since the Supreme Court’s ruling in Citizens United v. FEC, dark money has flooded electoral politics, imposing unprecedented levels. As a result, billionaires, corporations, and special interest groups—groups that already had outsized voices in our political processes—are now engaging in even more nefarious activities, including purging of voting rolls. In the wake of a secure election, which enabled greater levels of voter participation than in over a century, we should be building on this progress, not dismantling it.

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Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. SARBANES. Madam Speaker, if you get fair elections in place but, when the Representatives get to Washington they get taken hostage by the special interest and still get influenced by the big money, then you haven't solved our problem as the American people who want our voice to be heard. So we have to do the whole package.

Let me close with this. John Lewis, who is not with us anymore, fought for voting rights. He knew the vote was sacred. He told us to keep our eyes on the prize. Today we do that.

Elijah Cummings, whom I served with in Baltimore for many, many years, often told the story that on his mother's deathbed she beckoned him close, and the last thing she said to him was: Don't let them take the vote. We are not going to let them take the vote.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield ½ minute to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CRENSHAW).

Mr. CRENSHAW. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 1. I have always found it interesting that elections are the one thing my colleagues on the other side don't want to strictly regulate.

You see, Madam Speaker, there is this mythology amongst Democrats that commonsense rules in an election are synonymous with voter suppression. They make it sound as if you have to go through an obstacle course to go vote. This isn't true. It is nonsense, and everybody knows it.

The truth is that four out of five Americans support voter ID laws, and countless Americans have expressed concern because they received mail-in ballots for other people addressed to their residences. They want this fixed, and they don't want the problem to get worse. But this bill makes elections less trustworthy, not more.

Trust is everything. When people can see the faults in the process, whether it is ballots at the wrong house or careless verification processes, they believe people are cheating. You can't just dismiss that, Madam Speaker. We have to fix it. But instead this bill makes permanent the problematic election practices that we want to remove.

For example, Madam Speaker, ballot harvesting creates serious chain of custody issues, and universal mail-in voting without safeguards creates the kind of chaos where your ballot ends up in someone else's hands, as does forcing States to disregard their own voter ID laws and use sworn statements instead of an ID.

The integrity of our elections must be self-evident, wherein the mere possibility of fraud is improbable because the process itself is airtight and secure. Many States today do not meet that standard. We should be working together to make elections more secure, not less. If that is indeed our mutual goal, and I pray that it is, then I implore my colleagues to work with us.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, may I ask how much time is remaining on each side?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas has 1½ minutes remaining.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. SCANLON), who is a member of the House Judiciary Committee.

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, over the last 30 years I have been a poll worker, an election judge, an election protection lawyer, and a civics educator working to protect the right to vote.

I have seen firsthand the flaws in our system that prevent Americans from participating in our democracy. Voter suppression tactics, the influence of dark money, gerrymandering, and other anti-democratic practices have all disenfranchised voters.

In my home State of Pennsylvania, voters have been victim of such tactics for years. But many Americans have made clear that we want a government for the people and by the people, and House Democrats are answering that call.

I am particularly proud that my bills to increase access for voters with disabilities, bring transparency to inaugural funds, and increase the availability of ballot drop boxes have all been included in this legislation. I am also hopeful that my amendment to increase access to early voting for college students will also be included.

H.R. 1 will strengthen our democracy and ensure that the power in our government rests with the people.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I do also have a stack of letters in opposition. I will include them in the RECORD. I won't go through each of them.

FRANK LAROSE, Ohio Secretary of State, Columbus OH.


LAROSE CALLS ON CONGRESS TO REJECT FEDERAL TAKOVER OF ELECTIONS House Resolution 1 Would Bring Sweeping, Unworkable and Unfunded Change Across the Nation's 50 Unique Election Systems, Causing Chaos and Damaging Voter Confidence COLUMBUS—Today, Ohio Secretary of State Frank LaRose called on the United States Congress to vote against House Resolution 1, a bill that would effectively take over control of how states conduct elections. H.R. 1, which was a top priority of Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, would ignore both the United States Constitution and the unique election systems across the 50 states in an effort to standardize how states vote. “Ohio’s November 2020 election was the most successful on record, but Speaker Pelosi and Majority Leader Chuck Schumer want to wipe it all away with a massive power grab. Remember, each state election system is unique—shaped by time and trusted by their respective voters. Forcing uniform standards, procedures, and expectations into state election systems, some far different than others and not built for those requirements, is like forcing a square peg into a round hole. It won’t work.” Article 1, Section 4 of the Constitution states that “[t]he Times, Places and Manner of holding Elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed in each State by the Legislature thereof,” but that “the Congress may at any time by Law make or alter such Regulations, except as to the Places of choosing Senators.” In Federalist Paper No. 59, Alexander Hamilton contended that such regulation was only necessary “whenever extraordinary circumstances might render that interposition necessary to its safety.” Moreover, state-level elections and the election of the president have remained outside of the purview of congress.

However, the question of whether it’s even within the power of congress to take over how states run elections isn’t even the most important question. Instead, the better question is “should they?” In the 59 presidential elections since 1789, each has resulted in the successful election of a President. Voting laws have evolved across the 50 states, providing more and more access, security, and accuracy. Over time, each of those same 50 states have created their own unique election systems. From who administers the elections, to how votes are cast, to how a vote is protected—each system was born of federalism.

Like human beings, no voting system is perfect. Improvements and changes happen as the people, working through their respective state legislatures, see fit. In Ohio, a state whose elections have long been under the national spotlight, we’ve developed a system which has ensured voters have confidence in the outcome of elections. As a result, voter turnout is at an all-time high, voter fraud and voter suppression are exceedingly rare, and our efforts to strengthen the security of our elections have become a national model. Even as we faced enormous challenges last year we in Ohio ran the most successful election in our state’s history. It’s no surprise that other states are now coming to us to learn our best election practices so they can mirror them back home.

That’s how it’s supposed to work. One of the great motivations of federalism is the state role as a laboratory for democracy, with each state innovating to become a better version of itself, and sharing those lessons with other states. That experiment has allowed our nation to become the best in the world. We need to keep that experiment going and encourage Ohio’s congressional delegation to vote against House Resolution 1.

Secretary LaRose will soon be sending a letter to congressional leadership and Ohio’s congressional delegation requesting a no vote on HR 1.
We applaud Congress for expanding access to victim services. Yet, these important advances are at risk given the current downward trajectory of the Fund’s balance. Its balance has declined by nearly 40% since 2017, and by the end of 2021 unless specific changes are enacted to protect its bottom line. Any decrease in fund availability for distribution results in a decrease in the number of victims and survivors that are served as well as potential loss of essential staff for victim service programs.

In order to stabilize and maintain the Fund for use in the future, we respectfully request Congress amend VOCA in the following three ways:

- Deposit all monetary penalties from deferred and non-prosecution agreements into the Crime Victims Fund. The Fund supports state compensation programs to pay for out-of-pocket expenses. An increase in the reimbursement rate to or on behalf of crime victims for unexpected and often catastrophic expenses caused by violent crime. In order to supplement state awards to financially assist victims for crime-related out-of-pocket expenses, the Fund reimburses states 60 percent of spending in any fiscal year. Most states’ compensation programs are funded through fines and fees paid by offenders prosecuted in federal or state court.

- Increase the rate at which states are federally reimbursed for victim compensation programs to 75 percent.

- Allow for additional years of spending or no-cost extensions for VOCA discretionary, formula, and non-prosecution agreements to resolve federal, state, and tribal victim service programs.

The Fund provides critical support and services to victims of crime across the country. As state Attorneys General, we are often the administrators of grant funding through our state compensation programs or otherwise, financed directly from the Fund. In order to ensure the predictability and sustainability of funding, the Fund reimburses states 60 percent of spending in any fiscal year. Most states’ compensation programs are funded through fines and fees paid by offenders prosecuted in federal or state court. Recently, due to criminal justice reform initiatives and increased collection of fines and fees, states are facing a significant decline in collections of these fines and fees, limiting their ability to support essential victim compensation eligible expenses. An increase in the reimbursement rate from the Fund to at least 75 percent of spending in any fiscal year. Most states’ compensation programs are funded through fines and fees paid by offenders prosecuted in state court. Currently, the states are facing a significant decline in collections of fines and fees, limiting their ability to support essential victim compensation eligible expenses. An increase in the reimbursement rate from the Fund to at least 75 percent of spending in any fiscal year. Most states’ compensation programs are funded through fines and fees paid by offenders prosecuted in state court.

- Allow for additional years of spending or no-cost extensions for VOCA discretionary, formula, and non-prosecution agreements to resolve federal, state, and tribal victim service programs.

Current statutory limitations require that the Fund’s fiscal year end and spend annual grants in a four-year period. To reduce reversions and provide better forecasting for programming, the statute should allow for longer periods to spend down grants and allow the Office for Victims of Crime to permit no-cost extensions to states. A longer award period allows administrators to better plan and predict funding awards and long-term services. In times of economic uncertainty, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, this is especially the case.

- Keep money accessible to serve victims and survivors with much needed financial support.

Allow for additional years of spending or no-cost extensions for victim services.

- Provide additional years of spending or no-cost extensions for victim services.

- Increase the rate at which states are feder- ally reimbursed for victim compensation programs to 75 percent.

- Allow for additional years of spending or no-cost extensions for VOCA discretionary, formula, and non-prosecution agreements to resolve federal, state, and tribal victim service programs.
P&As were established by the United States Congress to protect the rights of people with disabilities and their families through legal support, advocacy, referral, and education. P&As are in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the US territories (American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, and the US Virgin Islands), and there are 14 in each of the 9 US territories, encompassing 171 P&As in all. The largest providers of legally based advocacy services to people with disabilities in the United States, the P&As have a federal mandate to ensure the full participation of individuals with disabilities in the entire electoral process, including registering to vote, casting a ballot, and accessing polling places. PAVA advocates are on the ground in communities and states, providing advice, technical assistance, and training to election officials about voting accessibility for a wide array of disabilities. They also provide outreach, training, and direct representation to individuals with disabilities and the agencies and organizations that serve them.

Voters with disabilities remain a large voting bloc in America’s elections. The United States Census Bureau has reported that more than 7.7 million people with disabilities live in the community, totaling approximately 19 percent of the non-institutionalized US population. Despite the size and diversity of the disability community, America’s electoral system remains largely inaccessible and has a long history of excluding people with disabilities. Inaccessible polling places, voting stations and vote by mail systems are only some of the barriers voters with disabilities face when seeking to exercise their right to vote in America every election cycle. In February 2021, the Election Assistance Commission (EAC) and Rutgers University released their report, “Disability and Voting Accessibility in the 2020 Elections”, which summarized their survey results from last year’s election cycle. The report found that “one in nine voters with disabilities encountered difficulties voting in 2020,” twice the rate of people without disabilities. The report also found that 18 percent of people with disabilities who voted in person last year had difficulty voting compared to 10 percent of people without disabilities, while five percent of voters with disabilities had difficulties using a mail ballot, compared to two percent of voters without disabilities.

Despite the fact that the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was signed into law almost 31 years ago, requiring America’s polling places be accessible to voters with disabilities, the majority of polling places remain inaccessible. The US Government Accountability Office (GAO) found that the polling places accessibility span 20 years. In 2000, GAO data indicated that only 16 percent of polling places had an accessible path of travel from the parking area to the voting booth. This percentage slowly but steadily increased to 27 percent in 2008 and to 40 percent in 2016. To be clear, 40 percent is an all-time high in architectural access, meaning that where a person with a disability could not cast a ballot independently, there was no barrier in place by law during the 2016 presidential election.

Worse, GAO began to investigate the accessibility of polling places within polling places starting with the 2008 study, during which only 54 percent of voting booths were determined to be accessible in 2016, the prevalence of accessible voting stations actually fell to a dismal 35 percent—a drop of 19 percentage points in just 2 presidential election cycles. GAO found that voting booths were less likely to be set up to ensure voter privacy, such as having head-phones readily apparent for audio balloting, or even be turned on for voters to use. In their 2016 findings, GAO combined architectural access data with data for the first time, and reported an astonishing 17 percent of polling places are compliant with federal law and fully accessible for voters with disabilities—fewer than 1 in 5.

Along with inaccessible polling places and inaccessible voting stations, vote by mail systems are not, and have never been, accessible to all voters with disabilities. People who are blind or low vision, have print disabilities, need larger print, or who are deaf have a right to privately and independently mark, verify, and cast a paper mail-in ballot.

Federal law is clear that any option made available to voters must be accessible for people with disabilities, including vote by mail. As Congress continues to explore voting legislation to strengthen American democracy, we urge you to protect the rights of all voters, including voters with disabilities. The P&As have data that proves paper-based voting systems are not, and have never been, accessible. Congress must invest in research and development and pilot projects, as well as funding to states for the purchase of new accessible voting equipment. Congress may also consider expanding the role of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission to address accessible remote voting in its creation of voting system guidelines and by adding full-time staff and additional seats on its advisory boards for experts in elections accessibility with a focus on voters with disabilities. Rather than overly prescriptive, blanket mandates that create barriers for eligible voters, our focus must be on fostering innovative solutions that make our elections more accessible and more secure through responsible use of technology.

Moving forward, the PAVA calls on Congress to continue to examine and pass legislation that protects the rights of all voters, including voters with disabilities. This includes, but is not limited to, Congress accepting its role in providing a constitutional check to state and local election officials for the purpose of making electoral processes fully accessible. Congress must invest in research and development and pilot projects, as well as funding to states for the purchase of new accessible voting equipment. Congress may also consider expanding the role of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission to address accessible remote voting in its creation of voting system guidelines and by adding full-time staff and additional seats on its advisory boards for experts in elections accessibility with a focus on voters with disabilities.

As the United States continues to diversify, the concerns of voters with disabilities must be addressed.

Sincerely, Curtis L. Decker, Executive Director.
John H. Merrill, Secretary of State, Montgomery, AL, February 22, 2021. Hon. Chuck Schumer, Majority Leader, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC. Hon. Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House, House of Representatives, Washington, DC. Hon. Mitch McConnell, Minority Leader, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC. Hon. Kevin McCarthy, Minority Leader of the House, House of Representatives, Washington, DC. Deaf Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, Speaker Pelosi, and House Minority Leader McCarthy: We are writing you today to urge you to reject the ‘‘For the People Act’’ otherwise known as H.R. 1 or S. 1, which is a dangerous overreach by the federal government into the administration of elections.

Elected legislators should have the freedom and flexibility to determine practices that best meet the needs of their respective states. A one-size-fits-all approach mandated by Congress is not the solution to any of our problems. These bills intrude upon our constitutional rights, and further sacrifice the security and integrity of the elections process. We firmly believe the authority to regulate and enact these changes should be left with the states.

H.R. 1 and S. 1 blatantly undermine the extensive work we, as election officials, have completed in order to provide safe, accessible voting options for our constituencies. Many of the proposed practices would reverse the years of progress that has been made. We are strongly opposed to these bills and hope you will dismiss efforts to advance this legislation.

Thank you for your consideration and attention to this matter.

John H. Merrill, Alabama Secretary of State; Kevin Meyer, Alaska Lieutenant Governor; Brad Raffenesperger, Georgia Secretary of State; Lawrence Denney, Idaho Secretary of State; Connie Lawson, Indiana Secretary of State; Scott Schwab, Kansas Secretary of State; Michael Adams, Kentucky Secretary of State; Kyle Ardoin, Louisiana Secretary of State.

Michael Watson, Mississippi Secretary of State; Christi Jacobsen, Montana Secretary of State; Bob TL Hargrett, Nebraska Secretary of State; Alvin A. Jaeger, North Dakota Secretary of State; Steve Barnett, South Dakota Secretary of State; Tre Hargett, Tennessee Secretary of State; Mac Warner, West Virginia Secretary of State; Ed Buchanan, Wyoming Secretary of State.


To: Ohio Federal Delegation
From: Ohio Representative Scott Wiggam,
District 1, Ohio House of Representatives

To the Ohio Federal Delegation: As a state legislator elected to be a voice for the people of Ohio, I write to express my opposition to H.R. 1/S. 1, an unconstitutional omnibus of citizens’ right to free speech and association.

As elected officials, we both have a duty to represent our constituents best interests and a responsibility to defend the United States Constitution. Both are tangential effects of the donor disclosure provisions that it would enact.

As a member of the American Legislative Exchange Council, a membership organization of state legislators dedicated to principles of limited government, free markets and federalism. In 2013, activists launched a campaign to reveal, harass, and shame the ALEC donor base. Their goal was simple: Harassing ALEC donors and corporate members would chill their participation with and support for the organization, ultimately cutting off a funding source for ALEC.

Worse, public elected officials used their platforms to loudly support a threat of donor disclosure in order to further intimidate ALEC supporters. In 2013, every company tangentially associated with ALEC received an official letter from US Senator Richard Durbin, demanding to know whether it had ‘‘served as a member of ALEC or provided any funding to ALEC,’’ with the intent of intimidating them. Durbin wrote that he would read their responses into the official Congressional record, forever memorializing their support and creating a public target list for activists opposed to the organization.

Even the Chicago Tribune, the Senator’s hometown newspaper that had endorsed his candidacy, rebuked Durbin’s attempt at creating an ‘‘enemies list’’ by using ‘‘his high federal office as a cudgel against his enemies.’’

H.R. 1/S. 1 would institutionalize this harassment and intimidation and extend it to all nonprofits, regardless of their area of political persuasion. Whatever issues you support or oppose, this should be of serious concern. Even if the legislation is enacted, passionate activists on both sides of the aisle would have access to a government-run database of donors who give to every organization from ALEC and the Family Research Council to the ACLU and Planned Parenthood. Does anyone doubt that the blunt instrument of donor disclosure in H.R. 1/S. 1 would put millions of Americans’ peace and livelihoods at risk of significant, material harm?

These tactics are flimsy bureaucratic structures designed to harass nonprofits and chill speech, which are separate and apart from the First Amendment. In keeping with today’s ‘‘cancel culture,’’ H.R. 1/S. 1 is a government-sanctioned attempt to chill speech and participation. ‘‘Good governance’’ watchdogs argue this measure increases our transparency. Transparency is good when applied to government, but when it strips away Constitutionally protected privacy for individuals, it is exceedingly dangerous. For the federal government to expose our constituents as supporters of any nonprofit’s cause would be an enormous overreach of centralized power.

If passed, the donor disclosure provisions in H.R. 1/S. 1 would bludgeon our democratic institutions and threaten the safety and peace of our everyday constituents. It would further normalize the legislation of cancellation and intimidation through overregulation in American society. Therefore, we call on you to oppose H.R./S. 1.

Sincerely,
Representative Scott Wiggam,
District 1, Ohio House of Representatives, Ohio ALEC State Chair.
other federal partners to conduct the largest-ever nationwide elder fraud sweep against perpetrators who had repeatedly targeted seniors, resulting in losses of over $750 million. This initiative was a monumental success, the total annual financial loss by elder abuse victims is estimated to be well over $2.6 billion.

Further, 35 U.S. Attorneys are expected to be over the age of 65 by 2030, an increase in scams and frauds targeting seniors is widely expected. The number of reported elder abuse cases has already more than tripled since 2001. Edith Shoroungian was one of those Wisconsin victims. Edith was scammed out of more than $80,000 by her longtime financial adviser. By using this legislation to add senior fraud as an eligible reimbursement expense under VoCA, states will help older people like Edith receive the financial relief they deserve. States would be incentivized but not mandated by this legislation to provide compensation to victims of senior fraud.

court. There, the matter will be reviewed de
dovo, with no reference to the Commission’s
findings of law or fact. If, however, the Com-
mission finds that the respondent did violate
the law and the respondent seeks to contest
those findings in court, the Commission’s
rulings will be afforded the traditional def-
ence given to administrative agencies by
courts. There, while the judicial system has tradi-
tionally erred in favor of the accused, so as to protect the
in
ocent and unjustly convicted, the FPA turns the table, both
shattering public confidence in the decisions
of the FEC. The Commission depends on bi-
partisan support and universal regard for the
fairness of its actions. Thus, we view these
goals with likely ruinous effect on our
political system.

Thomas J. Josefiak, (1985–1991); Darryl R.
Wold, (1999–2004); M. Mason, (1996–
2008); Bradley A. Smith, (2000–2005); Michael
E. Toner, (2002–2007); Hans A. von Spakovsky,
(2006–2007); Matthew S. Petersen, (2008–2019);
Caroline C. Cordero, (2008–2020); Lee E. Good-

DECEMBER 1, 2020.

CRISIS FOR THE VOCA CRIME VICTIMS FUND

THE BASICS

Fact: The Victim of Crime Act’s (VOCA) Crime Victims Fund (CVF) is a non-taxpayer source of funding that supports thousands of crime victims services providers serving mil-
ions of victims annually. The fund is run by a non-partisan, six-member board that is ap
pointed by the President and the Speaker of the House.

Subtitles F and G of Title IV aim to af-
firmatively clear the way for the Internal Revenue Service (“IRS”) and the Securities and Exchange Commission to become in-
volved in campaign-finance regulation. This is contrary to the design of the FECA, which gives the FEC primary civil enforcement re-

ponsibilities and exclusive authority for ad-
ministering the Act. The FEC is better suited to
those responsibilities, and other agencies do not have expertise in cam-
paign finance law.

Similarly, the “Stand by Every Ad Act” included in Title IV, Subtitle D would make disclaimer regulation more complex, have a chilling effect on speech, and provide little or no information that is not already avail-
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mission regulations. Indeed, in many cases, it would mislead the public as to the sources of an ad’s funding.
It doesn’t matter if you are a Democrat, Republican, or Independent. Everyone has a personal story of a friend, their family, or their neighbor receiving a ballot they shouldn’t have. Every one of those stories erodes trust in election integrity. Yet, under H.R. 1, the Democrats block mail-in ballots, mail-in voting to immigrants or maybe even registered two to three times. I guess Democrats just don’t care, as long as they get re-elected.

Third, H.R. 1 rewrites election laws and imposes one-size-fits-all partisan rules from Washington.

Under the Constitution, we generally defer to States and counties to run elections. Democrats want to change that. First, they outlaw Dr. Seuss, and now they want to tell us what to say. They want to remove reasonable debates about early voting, registration, and no-excuse mail-in balloting from the States and counties and resolve them with a single Federal solution decided by the whims of Washington. It is not unusual, because I know the committee is also looking at, even though someone didn’t win an election, appointing somebody different in Congress.

They want to stop States from listening to their residents on the very best way to protect ballot integrity, whether it is passing laws or using basic safeguards like checking their voter rolls against the Post Office change-of-address system.

They want to mandate no-excuse mail-in balloting and 15 days of early voting as the post-pandemic norm. Madam Speaker, in the last election, at least twice a week somebody would send me a picture of the ballots that were mailed to their home of people who had died or of people who had lived there in 8 years. This would guarantee that continues.

Fourth, H.R. 1 politicizes the Federal Election Commission by turning it from an evenly divided commission into a partisan one. But they are also going to create a speech czar.

Can you imagine? The Federal Election Commission has an even number of Republicans and an even number of Democrats. You have the smallest majority you have had in more than 100 years, so your number one priority is to make sure it is too steep that bi-partisan. Let’s put our thumb on the scale and make sure we get one more Democrat than Republican. Then we can create a speech czar and tell people what to say and what they can’t say.

So they can’t tell us in a bill we just passed that there is $140 million for a subway just outside the Speaker’s office. That would be wrong. But we also could get $200, but get $1,200 from the taxpayer. Who wouldn’t want this bill? Everyone single Democrat in the States and counties and resolve them with a single Federal solution decided by the whims of Washington. It is not unusual, because I know the committee is also looking at, even though someone didn’t win an election, appointing somebody different in Congress.

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Last year, COVID was the pretext for making changes to election law. Par-
and now they want to make sure those unconstitutional changes in a few States become the law in all States. That is what this is about.

This isn’t the first time Democrats have tried to have it both ways, talked out of both sides of their mouth. Remember what they said.

Democrats said: Republicans tried to overturn the will of the people on January 6, 2021, when we objected to six States.

But on January 6, 2017, they objected to ten states. The Democrat chair of the Rules Committee objected to Alabama, a State President Trump won by 30 points. The lead impeachment manager objected to Florida, and the chairwoman of the Financial Services Committee objected to Wyoming. For goodness sake, a State that President Trump won by 40 points. They tried to overturn the will of the people in Wyoming.

We know what this is about. This is about raw politics, and we should all vote “no.”

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Alabama, Ms. PALMER, the chair of the Republican Policy Committee and my good friend.

Mr. PALMER. Madam Speaker, if my Democrat colleagues were serious about making elections fair and honest, they might start by enforcing a law they passed, the National Voter Registration Act of 1993.

That law requires that every State and every county maintain accurate voter files. Yet, the Pew Research Center reported that there are 24 million people improperly registered. 1.8 million of them are dead. 2.7 million are registered in more than one State. The State of Michigan is 105 percent registered to vote, with 16 counties that are below 50 percent registered. Pennsylvania has over 800,000 inactive voters still on the State’s voter registration files, and Los Angeles County has 1.6 million more people registered to vote than live in the county who are qualified to vote.

There are 17 Democrat Members still serving in this Congress who voted for that law, including the Speaker and the majority leader. If you were serious about cleaning up our elections, you would have enforced the law.

As if the Federal takeover of elections isn’t enough, this bill would also match $1,200 of government funds for the candidates. This is not how the government should be spending our taxpayers’ money.

H.R. 1 would also allow the IRS to investigate the political and policy background of organizations before granting tax-exempt status.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield an additional 15 seconds to the gentlewoman from California, Mrs. STEEL.

Mrs. STEEL. Madam Speaker, this is a slippery slope towards discrimination against organizations. I urge my colleagues to vote “no” on this bill.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, may I inquire as to how much time is remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Illinois has 30 seconds remaining.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, vote “no” on this disastrous piece of legislation. Obviously, the timekeeper didn’t keep the time right; I should have more.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, may I inquire as to how much time is remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from California has 5 minutes remaining.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, there have been a number of statements made on the floor today that were hair-on-fire inaccurate, and now they want to make sure those unconstitutional changes in a few States become the law in all States.

In the upcoming 2022 election cycle, that means up to $7.2 million of public funds, per candidate, would be given to the candidates. This is not how the government should be spending our taxpayers’ money.

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could be used for anything else in the government. It is an additional penalty to corporations that have done wrong and are fined. There will be an additional fine to fund this pilot project.

I have heard that somehow H.R. 1 wouldn’t go as far as some of its proponents or as far as conservative groups. That is not true. Section 4501 simply repeals the prohibition that prevents the IRS from examining the meaning of social welfare in the context of 501(c)(4) organizations. That is about any group that misuses the Tax Code for politics, pretending to be a social welfare group, whatever their ideology. It never made sense to preclude the IRS from doing this job. That would be like prohibiting the FEC from administering the Federal elections code.

Voter ID: Members act as if that is just a piece of cake. Well, 11 percent of eligible voters in the United States don’t have an ID, and they can’t get it because they don’t have the money to pay for it. If you can’t prove it to yourself. We have had that in California for many years. I will note that Republican candidates used that extensively in California this year. There was no evidence of fraud when they did it, and there was no evidence of fraud when Democrats did it. You give your ballot to your neighbor, if you wish. The neighbor has to sign, and they turn it in for you. That is not fraud, and it is not a problem.

Ballot harvesting: There is no such thing as harvesting ballots. It is about getting someone you trust to turn in your ballot. If you can’t do it yourself, we have had that in California for many years.

For too long, this Chamber has been behind closed doors and though Members of Congress have not been able to advance this bill only 56 were allowed to be offered on the House floor. That is a travesty for Congress and the American people who want and deserve honest and transparent elections.

While serving in the Florida Senate I was tasked with ensuring the election laws of the state. This is a travesty for Congress and the American people who want and deserve honest and transparent elections. While serving in the Florida Senate I was tasked with ensuring the election laws of the state. This is a travesty for Congress and the American people who want and deserve honest and transparent elections.

Mr. POSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my strong opposition to H.R. 1 and my great disappointment that the Majority refused to allow my commonsense amendments to be offered to this bill. This bill was written behind closed doors and though Members of Congress were not offered any amendments to improve this bill only 56 were allowed to be offered on the House floor. That is a travesty for Congress and the American people who want and deserve honest and transparent elections.

While serving in the Florida Senate I was tasked with ensuring the election laws of the state. This is a travesty for Congress and the American people who want and deserve honest and transparent elections.

Events surrounding the 2020 election raised questions from my constituents about the operation and certification of voting machines used throughout our state and the nation. Chief among those concerns was whether our voting machines were connected to the Internet and vulnerable to manipulation through hacking. To answer these and other questions I contacted the U.S. Election Assistance Commission which certifies voting hardware and software for use in the United States.

In her letter to me, the Inspector General of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission addressed this topic stating that the “EAC believes Michigan may use modern transmission features in at least some of its Dominion voting systems.” This is in direct conflict with assertions by the maker of the Dominion Voting System who stated, “. . . Voting systems are by design meant to be used as closed systems that are not networked meaning they are not connected to the Internet.”

To end the confusion on this issue and restore confidence in our elections, I filed an amendment that would prohibit voting systems from being connected to the Internet; specifically, stating that no system or device upon which ballots are programmed or votes are cast or tabulated shall be connected to the Internet at any time. That would ensure the integrity of voting machines. Unfortunately, that amendment was not allowed to be debated and voted on.

My second amendment would ensure that election machines are fully auditable—no longer would election officials and election equipment providers deny full audits of elections due to proprietary software or hardware. The American people have a right to a full audit of any election to ensure the full integrity of elections. There is no good reason to oppose this amendment but, again, it was not allowed to be debated and voted on.

And, my third amendment would have prohibited the software produced by a foreign entity. It would also require all components of the voting systems be manufactured and maintained in the United States. Why should the votes of the American people be subject to counting using foreign equipment that cannot be connected to the Internet? My amendments would ban all three of these things.

By denying elected Members of Congress a vote on these amendments, Speaker PELOSI decided against providing full transparency and accountability in our federal elections. This partisan bill should be rejected.

Mr. PALMER. Madam Speaker, if my Democratic colleagues were serious about making elections fair and honest they would start by enforcing a law they passed—The National Voter Registration Act of 1993. That law requires that every state and county maintain accurate voter files. Yet the Pew Research Center reported that there are 24 million people improperly registered . . . 1.8 million dead, 2.7 million who do not vote in more than one state. The state of Michigan is 105 percent registered to vote with sixteen counties with voter registration between 110–119 percent.

Electoral data shows that California has over 800,000 inactive voter stills on the state’s voter registration files and Los Angeles County had 1.6 million more people registered to vote than people living in the county who are qualified to vote. The failure to maintain accurate voter files is an invitation for election fraud. If my Democratic colleagues are serious about restoring confidence in our elections they should be pushing states to comply with the law. There are 17 Democrat members still serving in this Congress who voted for the National Voter Registration Act including the Speaker and the Minority Leader. Why aren’t they pushing for cleaning up our voter registration files in every state?

As if the federal takeover of elections wasn’t enough, this bill would also force taxpayers to foot the bill for campaigns. Just a few weeks ago the majority stripped Rep. MARMORIE TAYLOR GREENE of her committee assignments. This week they seem to believe that though she wasn’t allowed to serve on any standing committees she should receive taxpayer funded campaign contributions. Based on the formula in the 2020 Act, Rep. GREENE has raised already this bill would give her over $7 million. Every Democrat who voted to strip Rep. GREENE of her committees has also co-sponsored the bill that would send over 7 million dollars to fund her re-election.

If this bill passes it will create a ruling class and tremendously undermine Americans’ right to self-government. In fact, this bill should be called the For The Permanent Ruling Class Act. No one who truly wants fair and honest elections, No one who wants the American people to have faith that their vote counts, will vote for this bill.

Ms. ESHOO. H.R. 1, For the People Act, is one of the most important bills Congress can consider because it strengthens and reforms our democracy at a time in history when it is especially fragile. This sweeping legislation is divided into three sections: voting, campaign finance, and ethics. Its numerous provisions expand voting rights, diminish the corrosive influence of money in politics, and bolster ethics and transparency to ensure government works for the people.

Voting is a fundamental right in a democracy, and H.R. 1 will expand voter rolls by requiring every state to adopt automatic and same-day voter registration, just as California has. The bill ends partisan gerrymandering by requiring states to adopt independent redistricting commissions and makes it easier to vote by expanding early voting and allowing every American to vote by mail, just as millions did last November during the pandemic.

H.R. 1 reforms our campaign finance system to address the dangerous Citizens United decision that opened the floodgates to unlimited contributions from anonymous donors. The legislation establishes a public Fair Electons Fund to match small dollar donations,
It shall be in order at any time for the chair of the Committee on House Administration or her designee to offer amendments en bloc consisting of further amendments printed in part B of House Report 117–9, not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on House Administration or their respective designation, shall be available for electronic filing, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

AMENDMENTS EN BLOC NO. 1 OFFERED BY MS. LOFGREN OF CALIFORNIA

Ms. LOFGREN, Madam Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 179, I offer amendments en bloc.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will designate the amendments en bloc.

Amendments en bloc No. 1 consisting of amendments Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 15, 16, 17, 20, and 21, printed in part B of House Report 117–9, offered by Ms. LOFGREN of California:

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MS. SCANLON OF PENNSYLVANIA

Page 169, after line 14 the following: (3) COLLEGE CAMPUSES.—The State shall ensure that polling places which allow voting during an early voting period under subsection (a) shall be located on campuses of institutions of higher education in the State.

AMENDMENT NO. 2 OFFERED BY MS. ADAMS OF NORTH CAROLINA

Page 222, line 22, insert “including initiatives to facilitate the enfranchisement of groups of individuals that have historically faced barriers to voting” before the period.

AMENDMENT NO. 3 OFFERED BY MS. ADAMS OF NORTH CAROLINA

Page 94, after line 21, insert the following: (2) a description of how the agency will prioritize access to such initiatives for schools that serve—

(A) the highest numbers or percentages of students counted under section 1124(c) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6333(c)); and

(B) the highest percentages of students who are eligible for a free or reduced price lunch under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.) (which, in the case of a high school, may be calculated using comparable data from the schools that feed into the high school), as compared to other public schools in the jurisdiction of the agency;

Page 94, line 22, strike “(2)” and insert “(5)”.

Page 94, line 24, strike “(3)” and insert “(4)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 4 OFFERED BY MS. ADAMS OF NORTH CAROLINA

Page 223, line 22, insert “Of the funds appropriated, the Secretary shall ensure that 25 percent is reserved for Minority Institutions described in section 571(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1067q(a)).” after the period.

AMENDMENT NO. 5 OFFERED BY MS. ADAMS OF NORTH CAROLINA

Page 161, after line 8, insert the following: (3) SAME-DAY PROCEDURES.—The United States Postal Service shall ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, that ballots are processed and cleared from any postal facility or post office on the same day the ballots are received at such a facility or post office.

Page 119, beginning line 15, strike “based on the race” and insert “based on the age, race”.

AMENDMENT NO. 9 OFFERED BY MS. BOURDEAUX OF GEORGIA

Page 184, insert after line 6 the following and redesignate the succeeding provisions accordingly:

“(b) Prohibiting Certain Restrictions on Access to Voting Materials.—

“(1) DISTRIBUTION OF ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATIONS BY THIRD PARTIES.—A State may not prohibit any person from providing an application for an absentee ballot in the election to any individual who is eligible to vote in the election.

“(2) UNSOLICITED PROVISION OF VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS BY ELECTION OFFICIALS.—A State may prohibit an election official from providing an unsolicited application to register to vote in an election for Federal office to any individual who is eligible to register to vote in the election.

Page 251, insert after line 18 the following: “(C) The State shall ensure that the number of drop boxes provided is sufficient to provide a reasonable opportunity for voters to submit their voted ballots in a timely manner.”.

Page 252, line 9, strike “and”.

Page 252, line 13, strike the period and insert “; and”.

Page 253, insert after line 13 the following: “(6) geographically distributed to provide a reasonable opportunity for voters to submit their voted ballot in a timely manner.”.

Page 253, insert after line 13 the following and redesignate the succeeding provision accordingly:

“(1) REMOTE SURVEILLANCE PERMITTED.—The State may provide for the security of drop boxes through remote or electronic surveillance.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 10 OFFERED BY MR. BRENDAN F. BOYLE OF PENNSYLVANIA

Page 88, after line 8, insert the following:

SEC. 1055. PERMISSION TO PLACE EXHIBITS.

The Secretary of Homeland Security shall implement procedures to allow the chief election officer of a State to provide information about voter registration, including through a display or exhibit, after the conclusion of an administrative naturalization ceremony in that State.

AMENDMENT NO. 11 OFFERED BY MR. BROWN OF MARYLAND

Page 45, insert after line 13 the following and redesignate the succeeding provision accordingly:

SEC. 1066. PERMITTING VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATION FORM TO SERVE AS APPLICATION FOR ABSENTEE BALLOT.

Section 5(c)(2) of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20504(c)(2)) is amended—

(1) by striking “and” at the end of subparagraph (D); and

(2) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (E) and inserting “and”.

(3) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:}
“(F) at the option of the applicant, shall serve as an application to vote by absentee ballot in the next election for Federal office held in the State and in each subsequent election for Federal office held in the State.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 15 OFFERED BY MS. RUSH OF MISSOURI
Page 250, line 9, strike ‘‘and’’.
Page 250, line 11, strike the period and insert ‘‘; and’’.
Page 250, insert after line 11 the following: ‘‘; (C) by homeless individuals (as defined in section 103 of the McKinney–Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 1987 (42 U.S.C. 11302)) of the State.’’.

AMENDMENT NO. 16 OFFERED BY MR. CASE OF HAWAI’I
At the end of subtitle I of title I, insert the following (and conform the table of contents accordingly):

SEC. 1624. STUDY AND REPORT ON VOTE-BY-MAIL PROCEDURES.

(a) STUDY.—The Election Assistance Commission shall conduct a study on the 2020 elections and compile a list of recommendations to—
(1) help States transitioning to vote-by-mail procedures; and
(2) improve their current vote-by-mail systems.
(b) REPORT.—Not later than January 1, 2022, the Election Assistance Commission shall submit to Congress a report on the study conducted under subsection (a).

AMENDMENT NO. 17 OFFERED BY MS. CASTOR OF FLORIDA
Page 681, line 2, strike ‘‘or’’.
Page 681, line 7, strike the period and insert ‘‘; or’’.
Page 681, insert after line 7 the following: ‘‘; (C) In the case of an individual who becomes an agent of a foreign principal that would require registration under section 2 of the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended (22 U.S.C. 612), before the date on which such individual becomes such an agent of a foreign principal.’’
Page 681, line 14, strike ‘‘1995’’ and insert the following: ‘‘1995, or, in the case of an individual described in subparagraph (C) of such paragraph, the date on which the individual becomes an agent of a foreign principal under the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended’’.

AMENDMENT NO. 18 OFFERED BY MR. CASE OF HAWAI’I
After subtitle H of title III, insert the following (and redesignate the succeeding subtitle accordingly):

Subtitle I—Study and Report on Bots

SEC. 3801. SHORT TITLE.
This subtitle may be cited as the “Bots Research Act”.

SEC. 3802. TASK FORCE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Election Assistance Commission, in consultation with the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, shall establish a task force to carry out the study and report required under section 3803.

(b) NUMBER AND APPOINTMENT.—The task force shall be comprised of the following:
(1) At least 1 expert representing the Government.
(2) At least 1 expert representing academia.
(3) At least 1 expert representing non-profit organizations.
(4) At least 1 expert representing the social media industry.
(5) At least 1 election official.
(6) Any other expert that the Commission determines appropriate.

(c) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Commission shall select task force members to serve by virtue of their expertise in automation technology.

(d) DEADLINE FOR APPOINTMENT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall appoint the members of the task force.

(e) COMPENSATION.—Members of the task force shall serve without pay and shall not receive travel expenses.

(f) TASK FORCE SUPPORT.—The Commission shall ensure appropriate staff and officials of the Commission are available to support any task force-related work.

SEC. 3803. STUDY AND REPORT.

(a) STUDY.—The task force established in this subtitle shall conduct a study of the impact of automated accounts on social media, public discourse, and elections. Such study shall include an assessment of—
(1) what qualifies as a bot or automated account;
(2) the extent to which automated accounts are used;
(3) how the automated accounts are used; and
(4) how to most effectively combat any use of automated accounts that negatively affects social media, public discourse, and elections while continuing to promote the protection of the First Amendment on the Internet.

(b) TASK FORCE CONSIDERATIONS.—In carrying out the requirements of this section, the task force shall consider, at a minimum—
(1) the promotion of technological innovation;
(2) the protection of First Amendment and other constitutional rights of social media users;
(3) the need to improve cybersecurity to ensure the integrity of elections; and
(4) the importance of continuously reviewing relevant regulations to ensure that such regulations respond effectively to changes in technology.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the establishment of the task force, the task force shall develop and submit to Congress and relevant Federal agencies the results and conclusions of the study conducted under subsection (a).

AMENDMENT NO. 20 OFFERED BY MS. ESCOBAR OF TEXAS
Page 397, insert after line 1 the following: SEC. 3806. EXEMPTION OF CYBERSECURITY ASSESSMENTS FROM LIMITATIONS ON AMOUNT OF COORDINATED POLITICAL PARTY EXPENDITURES.

(a) EXEMPTION.—Section 315(a)(5) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30116(d)(5)) is amended—
(1) by striking “(5)(A)” and inserting “(5)(A)”; and
(2) by striking the period at the end and inserting ‘‘, or to expenditures (whether provided as funds or provided as in-kind services) for cybersecurity assessments for secure information communications technology or for a cybersecurity product or service for any other product or service which assists in responding to threats or harassment online.”

(b) By striking the period at the end of subparagraph (b) and inserting—
(1) the term ‘cybersecurity product or service’ means a product or service which helps an organization to achieve the set of standards, guidelines, best practices, methodologies, procedures, and processes to cost-effectively identify, detect, protect, respond to, and recover from cyber risks as developed by the National Institute of Standards and Technology pursuant to subsections (c)(15) and (e) of section 2 of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 272).”;

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to expenditures made on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 179, the gentleman from California (Mr. LOFgren) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. ROYDNEY DAVIS) each will control 10 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.
Mr. LOFgren. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, this block of amendments provides important additions to H.R. 1 that strengthen the bill and enhance voter access.

This block includes, for example, an amendment from the gentleman from Pennsylvania that requires States to ensure that there are polling places during the early voting period on college campuses. This will help young people to engage (by) and will likely help boost youth turnout.

It also includes an amendment from the gentleman from North Carolina that will help ensure the timely delivery of absentee ballots by the Postal Service. It calls for the Postal Service to perform same-day processing of ballots when they are received at a postal facility.

Also included is an amendment from the gentleman from Pennsylvania that supports access to the franchise, if it implements voter protections by ensuring that States cannot prohibit access to voting materials provided by third parties, such as get-out-the-vote organizations.

There is also an amendment from the gentleman from Pennsylvania that allows for voter education information at naturalization ceremonies for newly sworn-in citizens. That will help educate and inform new citizens about the opportunities to register to vote.

Finally, there is an amendment from the gentleman from Texas that exempts cybersecurity assistance, including assistance in responding to threats or harassment online, from limits on coordinated political party expenditures.

Madam Speaker, I support these amendments. I urge their adoption, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROYDNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to this bill. This legislation masquerades as a fix to the country’s election concerns. However, that couldn’t be further from the truth.

This bill relaxes ethics requirements with a change in administration. It forces taxpayers to subsidize elections and election outreach. It compromises...
States’ rights and leaves Washington as the arbiter of managing elections, which runs against the Constitution. It would limit free speech and weaken the First Amendment protections that everyone here holds in such high regard.

This legislation compromises State voter rights, and it intends to roll back the important work that has been done in this space. It alters the Federal Election Commission’s makeup and effectively limits any bipartisan consensus or work that can be done.

The bipartisan bill intended to unite the country and mend concerns about elections. No, this is another partisan package that was rushed to the floor and, subsequently, could have serious consequences for our constituents and our Nation.

This bill will weaken what many States are doing to improve election security and establishes a dangerous precedent for the involvement of Federal agencies in election issues.

For this reason, as the gentlewoman from Oklahoma, I urge my colleagues to oppose the underlying bill.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. AUCHINCLOSS), a new member of the House who has two amendments encompassed in this en bloc amendment.

Mr. AUCHINCLOSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1, the For the People Act, to restore integrity and ethics in our electoral process.

To strengthen the bill, I have offered two amendments to empower younger generations to work together to tackle the challenges that will define our lifetimes. Climate change, gun violence, and reproductive rights energize and galvanize younger Americans. The right to vote is how they are heard and how they make change. My amendments will expand and protect this right for young people.

The For the People Act must live up to its name, and I am proud to offer these amendments that reinforce the underlying bill.

Mr. AUCHINCLOSS. Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to this en bloc amendment and H.R. 1, the so-called For the People Act.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 1 would retrace the hard work that States such as Oklahoma have done to improve our election laws.

When I served in the Oklahoma State Legislature, we implemented requirements to ensure the security of our elections in our State. However, H.R. 1 includes a Federal mandate that would take away the ability of States to oversee and manage their own elections.

Madam Speaker, I include in the Record the letter from Ziriax, the secretary of the Oklahoma State Election Board, in which he raises serious concerns that H.R. 1 would supersede most of Oklahoma’s election laws.

OKLAHOMA STATE ELECTION BOARD, Oklahoma City, OK. February 25, 2021.

Hon. JIM INHOFE, United States Senator. Hon. JAMES LANKFORD, United States Senator. Hon. KEVIN HERN, United States Representative, District 1. Hon. MARKWAYNE MULLIN, United States Representative, District 2. Hon. IMANI DAVIS, United States Representative, District 3. Hon. TOM COLE, United States Representative, District 4. Hon. STEPHANIE BICK, United States Representative, District 5.

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE OKLAHOMA CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION: As Oklahoma’s chief election official, I am writing to make you aware of my concerns regarding H.R. 1, as introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives, and its U.S. Senate companion, S. 1.

H.R. 1’s election administration component would result in an unnecessary federal takeover of election administration policy across the nation’s 3,143 counties. This legislation is to “overcome rampant voter suppression”—yet I have seen no evidence of such rampant “suppression” here in our state.

H.R. 1 would supersede most of Oklahoma’s election administration and election integrity laws, making our secure, more complicated to administer, and much more expensive to conduct. Although H.R. 1 claims to only apply to “federal elections,” this legislation would apply to all elections because Oklahoma’s state and county elections are held on the same dates as federal elections.

Although the concerns with H.R. 1 are too numerous to provide an exhaustive list in this letter, there are some fairly amazing levels of micromanagement of elections in this legislation. For example, requiring “self-sealing” return envelopes, to setting the number of days of “early” voting, to mandating that new state voting systems be capable of “ranked choice” elections, to dictating how close voting locations must be to public transportation stops.

H.R. 1 is incompatible with many of Oklahoma’s existing state laws. For example, Oklahoma law requires that federal elections must be certified one week after the date of the election. But H.R. 1 disregards such deadlines, requiring it to be accepted and counted 10 days after Election Day—which is three days after the state must certify the election results.

This legislation takes a cutting blow at Oklahoma’s existing election integrity laws, making it virtually impossible for election officials to verify the identity of in-person and mail absentee voters, requiring states to allow untrackable absentee ballot harvesting, mandating voter registration by telephone, and making it nearly impossible to prevent double voting by allowing voters to vote anywhere in the state whether they are registered to vote at that location or not.

In an H.R. 1 world, Oklahoma election officials would have the authority to instruct the electorate that an election is fraud-free. Other provisions will add great uncertainty to elections in Oklahoma, such as the requirement that tribal leaders can determine certain voting locations on tribal land—which given the recent U.S. Supreme Court’s McGirt decision, might be interpreted as most of the State of Oklahoma.

Finally, H.R. 1 does not include realistic timelines for implementing its election administration changes. Implementation, even a few of its major provisions might take years—yet H.R. 1 demands that dozens of major new election administration policies and technologies be put in place in the time frame for this is setting up election officials for failure, and I fear that many experienced election administrators in our state may quit or retire rather than attempting the near-impossible task of implementing the provisions of H.R. 1 should it become law.

There are legitimate disagreements about election policies. In fact, most states have very different election procedures. This is by design. Under the Constitution and our federal system of government, it is the responsibility of State Legislatures to determine the time, manner and place of elections. Congress should not attempt to implement a one-size-fits-all set of rules for the states. For this reason, it seems likely that the enactment of H.R. 1 would almost certainly lead to costly and lengthy litigation. If your or your staff would like to discuss this issue further, please feel free to contact me. Thank you.

Sincerely,

PAUL ZIRIAX, Secretary, Oklahoma State Election Board.

MRS. BICE of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, the Constitution is clear that
Mr. FITZGERALD. As elected officials, we have a duty to maintain the faith of our voters in the integrity of our elections.

Madam Speaker, for these reasons, I urge a "no" vote on this bill.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. This bill would permanently open the floodgates by forcing States to allow out-of-state voter ID laws.

In the 2020 election, this happened in Wisconsin. Where ballot harvesting is not supposed to be permitted. In those instances, voter registration and absentee ballots were completed and collected in unsecured outdoor areas prior to the date allowed under State law.

I am also proud to have implemented strong voter ID laws during my time in the Wisconsin Legislature. Unfortunately, over the past year, I saw those protections steamrolled under the guise of the pandemic, allowing over 200,000 voters to submit a ballot without showing an ID.

This bill would permanently open the floodgates by forcing States to allow individuals to vote without an ID simply by signing a statement, effectively banning State voter ID laws.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield an additional 15 seconds to the gentleman from Wisconsin. (Mr. FITZGERALD, another mediocre—I mean, a star freshman of our historic class and my good friend.

Mr. FITZGERALD. Madam Speaker, I rise in objection to H.R. 1, the so-called For the People Act.

Contrary to the title, the bill puts politicians ahead of the American people and codifies nationwide election changes made last year that shook the faith of Americans in the integrity of our elections.

When Americans vote, they put faith in the idea that our system of government gives them a voice in our democracy. If this faith is betrayed and Americans become skeptical of their vote, the trust our system is built upon collapses, and they do not want it to collapse.

The bill would take us down this very path of losing trust by taking constitutionally granted authority out of the hands of the States and local officials and destroying the safeguards of election integrity.

For example, not only would this bill do nothing to address ballot harvesting, but it would take the practice nationwide. We have seen the irregularities created by this practice and how ballot harvesting allows manipulation and intimidation in several elections across this country.

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The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.
money is taken from corporate fines that are corporate dollars laundered through the Federal Government. This money comes out as public money, taxpayer dollars, and then it is given directly to Members of Congress’ campaign accounts. Madam Speaker, a vote for this bill is a vote for you, yourself, $7.2 million in your own campaign.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Just a few points. As I am sure the gentleman from Illinois knows, we had a markup last year on H.R. 1, and one of the issues raised was the propriety of having taxpayer dollars fund the pilot program, the matching program.

And we agreed—we agreed with that observation. So we changed it. We made an amendment to address that concern.

It is not an additional—an existing fund. If a corporation does wrong and is assessed a fine, there is an additional fine on that bad-doing corporation that would fund the pilot project. And if there aren’t enough bad-doers to actually fully fund the program, the program is scaled back. There is no taxpayer money in this program.

This is in this bill address things that are important. And let me just reference the letter from the attorneys general that I included in the RECORD earlier. We are talking about what is happening right now, and this is what they state:

"... State legislators have seized upon former President Trump’s baseless voter fraud allegations to curtail mail-in voting options, impose stringent voter ID requirements, limit voter registration opportunities, and allow even more aggressive purging of voter rolls. In the wake of a safe and secure election, which enabled greater levels of voter participation than in over a century, we should be building on this progress, not tearing it down."

And that is what this act would do. They go on to say:

"The act includes several measures that would neutralize these cynical efforts at voter suppression."

Madam Speaker, I think we should recognize that what is going on in State legislatures around the United States right now is, in fact, what the attorneys general have said, a cynical effort by Federal legislators in Congress to make it harder for such individuals to vote in elections.

As soon as I get back, I would like to thank the attorneys general of Maryland, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Nevada, and Washington for standing up for the rule of law, for pointing out that H.R. 1 fails to clean elections, and that American democracy needs repairing, and this bill will repair it.

Madam Speaker, I urge a "yes" vote on the en bloc amendments, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 179, the previous question is ordered on the amendments en bloc offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. Lofgren).

The question is on the amendments en bloc.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced the negative vote and yeas and nays ordered.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(a) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to rule XX, further proceedings on this question are postponed.

AMENDMENTS EN BLOC NO. 2 OFFERED BY MS. LOFGREN OF CALIFORNIA

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 179, I rise to offer amendments en bloc No. 2.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will designate the amendments en bloc.

The amendments en bloc No. 2 consisting of amendments Nos. 6, 12, 13, 18 and 39, printed in part B of House Report 117–9, offered by Ms. LOFGREN of California: AMENDMENT NO. 6 OFFERED BY MR. ARMSTRONG OF NORTH DAKOTA

Page 286, after line 7, insert the following:

SEC. 1934. CLARIFICATION OF EXEMPTION FOR STATES WITHOUT VOTER REGISTRATION.

To the extent that any provision of this title or any amendment made by this title imposes a requirement on a State relating to the registration of individuals in elections for Federal office, such provision shall not apply in the case of any State in which, under law that is in effect on January 20, 2017, there is online voter registration for all eligible voters, and the States use voter registration lists as the official voter registration lists for Federal elections.

AMENDMENT TO 18 OFFERED BY MR. COMER OF KENTUCKY

AMENDMENTS EN BLOC NO. 12 OFFERED BY MR. BURGESS OF TEXAS

Page 208, after line 7, insert the following (and redesignate subsequent sections appropriately):

SEC. 1797. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE REPORT ON VOTER DISENFRANCHISEMENT.

Not later than 1 year of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall submit to Congress a report on the impact of widespread mail-in voting on the ability of active duty military servicemembers to vote, how quickly their votes are counted, and whether higher volumes of votes makes it harder for such individuals to vote in federal elections.

AMENDMENT NO. 39 OFFERED BY MR. ARMSTRONG OF NORTH DAKOTA

Page 45, after line 13, insert the following (and redesignate subsequent sections accordingly):

SEC. 1006. REPORT ON DATA COLLECTION.

Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall submit to Congress a report on local, State, and Federal online voter registration systems, the cyber security resources necessary to defend such systems from online attacks, and the impact of a potential data breach of local, State, or Federal online voter registration systems.

AMENDMENT TO 18 OFFERED BY MR. COMER OF KENTUCKY

Strike section 8032 and insert the following:

SEC. 8032. PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITION ETHICS PROGRAMS.

The Presidential Transition Act of 1963 (3 U.S.C. 102 note) is amended—

(1) in section 3(f), by adding at the end the following:—

"(3) Not later than 10 days after submitting an application for a security clearance for any individual, and not later than 10 days after granting such individual security clearance (including an interim clearance), each eligible candidate (as that term

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is described in subsection (b)(4)(A) or the President-elect (as the case may be) shall submit a report containing the name of such individual to the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate.”; and

(2) in section 6(b)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking “and” at the end;

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon;

and

(iii) by adding at the end the following: “(C) a list of all positions each transition team member has held outside the Federal Government for the previous 12-month period, including paid and unpaid positions.”

“(D) sources of compensation for each transition team member exceeding $5,000 a year for the previous 12-month period;

“(E) a description of the role of each transition team member, including a list of any policy issues that the member expects to work on, and a list of agencies the member expects to interact with, while serving on the transition team;

“(F) a list of any issues from which each transition team member will be recused while serving as a member of the transition team and the intended data breach of local, State, or Federal online voter registration systems.

Additionally, there is an amendment directing the Election Assistance Commission to study the use of blockchain technology to enhance election security. I hope that study will include the use of electricity in the creation of blockchain technology.

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Much of H.R. 1’s provisions are aimed at restoring the American public’s faith in the government by improving ethics standards imposed on public officials.

An amendment included in this en bloc would require ethics waivers granted by Congress to the executive branch officials to be disclosed, and require members of the Presidential transition team to disclose nongovernmental positions they have held in the year prior to starting their service on the transition team.

I thank my colleagues on the other side of the aisle for putting forward these amendments, and I believe it will gather bipartisan support.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. STEIL. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. Comer), my colleague.

Mr. COMER. Madam Speaker, I urge all Members, on a bipartisan basis, to support this amendment.

When reviewing H.R. 1 as introduced this Congress, I noticed it was missing several ethics provisions that were included in the bill last Congress when Donald Trump was President. But now that Joe Biden is President, those ethics provisions conveniently disappeared.

What was missing from this updated version of H.R. 1 were the following provisions:

Requirements that Presidential transition teams disclose sources of compensation for each transition team member exceeding $5,000 a year for the previous 12-month period, including paid and unpaid positions. Requirements that Presidential transition teams disclose sources of compensation for each transition team member exceeding $5,000 a year for the previous 12-month period, including paid and unpaid positions.

And a requirement that the head of the Federal department or agency, or their designee, shall not permit access to the Federal department or agency, employees of such department or agency, that would not be provided to a member of the public for any transition team member who does not make the required prior employment and conflicts of interest disclosures.

It is clear that the absence of these provisions was pure politics, but my amendment adds those provisions back since what is good for a Republican President is good for the Democratic administration. The principal reason why I am opposed to this bill is because it is not universal. They are supposed to apply equally. And this bill, that so obviously exempts one political party from ethics rules, is not itself ethical. Many Democrats should vote for this amendment and support it requires what Republicans proposed in the last Congress. We took the exact language and included it in this bill.

If this bill had gone through regular order and had been marked up in a committee, we could have addressed these discrepancies at the committee level instead of imposing this extended amendment process on the whole House. But this bill did not go through regular order, and the committee added this amendment at the Committee on Rules. This amendment restores to the bill ethics provisions that were originally intended to apply for President Trump and his advisers but were dropped from the bill for President Biden’s administration.

Applying ethics rules to one political party but not another is wrong. The Committee on Rules, to their credit, took a step toward correcting this wrong by making this even-handed amendment in order. Now, it remains for the full House to pass this amendment and to show its agreement on a bipartisan basis that ethics rules should apply equally.

Madam Speaker, I urge all members to join me in supporting the Comer amendment No. 18 in en bloc No. 2.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. STEIL. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from North Dakota (Mr. Armstrong), my colleague and good friend.

Mr. ARMSTRONG. Madam Speaker, I appreciate my colleagues on both sides of the aisle recognizing the unique nature of the State of North Dakota.

In 1993, the Voter Registration Act passed and there were six States that did not have voter registration. And so, rightfully so, under thoughtful and considered language, they exempted the States who didn’t have voter registration from the Voter Registration Act.
Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, my colleague.

Well, now we are in 2021, and the only State in the country that doesn’t have voter registration is the State of North Dakota. So as this process has been going on and the different fights that exist, which I agree with my colleagues on this side of the aisle on a lot of these issues, I find ourselves in a fairly unique position in that the intent of what people are trying to do with this bill would have actually made it more difficult in a lot of cases in North Dakota for how we do things. We are lucky to have a quicky balloting, elections system. I will just tell you, when I served in the State legislature, I was the chair of the State Senate Judiciary Committee, which was in charge of election law. And North Dakotans are very proud of it. I also served as the State party chair for 3 years, so I was very frustrated by the fact that we didn’t have voter registration. So even in my own background, I had conflicting views on this.

Madam Speaker, I just appreciate the ability of everybody working together because this is really important to my State, and it would fundamentally change the ability of everybody working together.

Mr. STEIL. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS), my colleague.

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for the recognition.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer an amendment to H.R. 1, Burgess amendment No. 12, which would require the Attorney General of the United States to submit a report to Congress on the impact of widespread mail-in voting on the ability of Active Duty military servicemembers to vote, how quickly their votes could be counted, and whether the higher volumes of mail-in votes makes it harder for those individuals to vote in national elections.

America’s servicemembers put their lives on the line to protect our country and everything it stands for. We must ensure their voices are heard in our elections. If the majority has their way with the underlying bill in permanently expanding mail-in voting, Congress must first know that such policies won’t negatively impact those we rely on to ensure that our voices are heard in the first place.

A second amendment, Burgess amendment No. 13, would require a report on voter data collection efforts at local, State, and Federal levels, and make the resources necessary to defend such efforts from cyberattacks and the impact of potential data breaches of local, State, or Federal online voter registration systems.

H.R. 1, the underlying bill, includes the Voter Registration Modernization Act, which requires that all Americans have access to online voter registration, a significant expansion of this service in many parts of the country. Voter online registration can be quick, easy, and convenient. It also poses significant risks for those same citizens by increasing the cyber-infrastructure requirements at all levels of government and introduces cybersecurity challenges in areas that have not previously had online registration.

We are all familiar with the concept, if it goes on a network, it can be hacked. Data breaches pose a real threat to Americans’ privacy, to their financial security. We have seen time and again how poor or nonexistent cybersecurity, have created new vulnerabilities to Americans’ personally identifiable information.

Madam Speaker, Americans deserve to know how this mandate in the underlying bill will impact their local voting systems and their personal privacy. Many areas of the United States have successfully implemented online voter registration, and that could be great for those voters. However, many election precincts, and even some States, do not have adequate infrastructure or resources to ensure proper protection of the personally identifiable information that is required to be collected to register to vote.

This amendment would provide our constituents information to either provide a sense of security that their voter data will be properly protected or will serve as a warning as to how this could impact their voting system.

Madam Speaker, I urge an “aye” on both votes.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I re-save my time.

Mr. STEIL. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BUSH), my colleague.

Ms. BUSH. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Missouri (Ms. BUSH) for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I urge an “aye” on both votes.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I retract the balance of my time.

Mr. STEIL. Madam Speaker, although I do not support the underlying bill, H.R. 1, these five amendments brought before us improve what is otherwise a bad bill. I think these studies would be helpful, in particular, to our servicemembers.

And we recognize the unique position the State of North Dakota has in our system.

Madam Speaker, I encourage a “yes” vote on the en bloc, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, as I said in my opening remarks, we believe these amendments are reasonable ones. I support them, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 179, the previous question is ordered on the amendments en bloc offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LOFGREN).

The question is on the amendments en bloc.

The en bloc amendments were agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MS. BUSH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 14 printed in part B of House Report 117-9.

Ms. BUSH. Madam Speaker, I have an amendment at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 141, line 19, strike “unless such individual is serving a felony sentence in a correctional institution or facility at the time of the election”.

Page 143, strike line 9 and all that follows through page 144, line 2 and insert the following:

(2) DATE OF NOTIFICATION.—The notification required under paragraph (1) shall be given on the date on which the individual is sentenced for the offense involved.

Page 145, strike lines 1 through 8 and insert the following:

(i) in the case of any individual committed to the custody of the Bureau of Prisons, by the Director of the Bureau of Prisons, on the date in which the individual is sentenced.

Page 146, strike lines 17 through 24 and re-designate the succeeding provisions accordingly.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 179, the gentleman from Missouri (Ms. BUSH) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Missouri.

Ms. BUSH. Madam Speaker, St. Louis, Madam Speaker, St. Louis and I rise to offer an amendment to H.R. 1, the For the People Act, which would restore the right to vote to our community members serving sentences for felony convictions.

I want to extend my deepest gratitude to Congressman Jones for this partnership.

Madam Speaker, America does not love all of its people, and we see that. Right now, more than 5 million people are actually barred from participating in our elections as a result of criminal laws. That is, 1 in 44 Americans, 500,000 Latinx Americans, 1.2 million women, and 1 in 6 Black folks.

Madam Speaker, this cannot continue. Disenfranchising our own citizens, it is not justice.

Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LOFGREN).

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Missouri (Ms. BUSH) for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I would just like to note that the underlying bill provides that once individuals are re-enfranchised, they may vote. And H.R. 1 also ends the practice of so-called prison gerrymandering, where persons who are incarcerated are counted where they are incarcerated not in their home districts, even though they cannot vote there.

Now, I know different people have different viewpoints on this amendment. The committee Democrats have no official position, but speaking just personally, I feel there is merit to this amendment. If you’re going to count the individuals for redistricting purposes in their prisons, then I think they have to be allowed to vote there, or else that entire scheme is completely wrong.

Madam Speaker, further, it occurs to me that those who oppose it think that denying a vote would somehow be a deterrent to criminal conduct. In fact,
Mr. STEIL. Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. TIPPANY. Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to this amendment. Madam Speaker, there isn’t enough time to talk about all of the crazy things in this bill, so I am going to focus on the one provision I think takes the cake and something that should have been put in this bill.

The bill before us today, which I am calling the politician enrichment act, will force American taxpayers to fund partisan political ads.

You heard that right, Mr. and Mrs. America. All those negative, mud-slinging campaign ads you see on TV every election cycle—the ones you can’t stand—well, now you have to pay for them, too. In fact, you get to chip in $6 of your money for every $1 the politicians raise.

How is that for the swamp taking care of its own?

But, wait, there is more: This new taxpayer-funded gravy train will expand a loophole in campaign finance law that is already big enough to drive a fully-loaded Brinks truck through.

Madam Speaker, thanks to a generous carve-out in Federal law, members of Congress are able to funnel campaign contributions into their personal bank accounts by simply hiring their spouses as campaign consultants.

In fact, one high profile member of the body—this body—exploited this loophole to the tune of $2.8 million in the last election cycle. You think it is bad now. Joe and Jane Taxpayer? Just wait until you see how bad it gets when you are paying for it.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. STEIL. Madam Speaker, I yield an additional 15 seconds to the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. TIPPANY. Madam Speaker. I filed an amendment with the Committee on Rules to close this loophole, one based on a bipartisan proposal introduced by Mr. SCHIFF and supported by Mr. HOYER, Mr. CLYBURN, and Speaker PELOSI in the 110th Congress. But the Committee on Rules chose not to allow us to vote on that amendment today.

I wonder why?

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Ms. BUSH. Madam Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. JONES).

Mr. JONES. Madam Speaker, I rise to vindicate the right to vote as precisely that, a constitutional right, not a privilege, a right.

It is a travesty that our Nation’s laws do not fully protect the right to vote. The reason, of course, is white supremacy. Over 150 years ago, during Reconstruction, we tried to build a multiracial democracy in this country. For the first time, Black people won seats in this very Chamber, but white supremacy trumped it. So, unlike today’s Republican Party, they devised ways to deny Black people the right to vote.

Madam Speaker, thanks to the 15th Amendment, they could not expressly disfranchise voters, so they barred prisoners from voting. Then they invented excuses to put Black people in those prisons. It took 70 years for a Black candidate to win a seat in this Congress from the South again.

These Jim Crow laws remain on the books. They are why over 5 million incarcerated people are barred from voting. These people look like me. They are parents. They are children. They are actually debating some of these things that we debate on the floor now.

Madam Speaker, this last election showed the Democrats’ true goals for reform, a way to permanently federalize the States’ elections away from Republicans.

If someone would read the Constitution, it is a beautiful document. It talks about States making their own election law. This bill, if anything, should be referred to as the for the People Act.

Before I do that, I want to speak to the recent amendment submitted that would allow criminals, convicted felons, in this country to vote. I have traveled around the world. I don’t know any country in this world that allows criminals, convicted felons, to vote. That is not keeping them from committing their crime. It is called punishment. It is punishment for their crime. It is unconscionable to me why we would be debating some of these things that we debate on the floor now.

Madam Speaker, the last election showed the Democrats’ true goals for reform, a way to permanently federalize the States’ elections away from Republicans. If someone would read the Constitution, it is a beautiful document. It talks about States making their own election law. This bill, if anything, should be referred to as the for theopoliticians act.

Madam Speaker, let’s just look at the process before I lambast the policy. There were 183 amendments submitted, but only 56 were made in order. Of those 56, only 3 were allowed by Republican Members.

Thanks to the McGovern rule, Democrats are continually able to submit rule bills on the floor without a committee markup—it is called the democratic process—without a markup or a hearing.

Madam Speaker, policy wise, things look even worse. This massive bill provides taxpayer money to finance incumbents’ campaigns, it curbs free speech, significantly increases Federal bureaucracy and red tape, and creates a one-size-fits-all Federal election system.

Madam Speaker, our Founders purposefully decentralized our election process to give States the authority to conduct a smooth and open election day. Get the Federal Government out of State and local affairs. Not every single person has the same background. Eastern North Carolina is not the same, thank God, as California; Portland, Oregon; or Manhattan.

Madam Speaker, furthermore, many of these changes were made without the input of State and local leaders who have the best on-the-ground knowledge.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. STEIL. Madam Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from North Carolina.

Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, several organizations oppose this bill. I urge my colleagues on both sides to oppose H.R. 1 and support the Republican alternative, the Save Democracy Act.

This is about our elections. This is what makes the United States different from everywhere. If we allow fraud in our electoral process, this Nation is lost.

Ms. BUSH. Madam Speaker, may I ask how much time is remaining. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has 1½ minutes remaining. The gentleman from Wisconsin has 1 minute remaining.

Ms. BUSH. Madam Speaker, let me just say, currently, Vermont, Maine, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico allow for individuals to vote who are incarcerated, just to be clear.

Madam Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from Michigan (Ms. TLAIB).

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise because voting is a right that must be extended to all people, and yes, that includes currently and formerly incarcerated individuals.

Madam Speaker, in a country that has yet to fully make amends or pay restitution for its racist past, we must recognize that taking away the right to vote as punishment for a crime is directly tied to the racist, mass incarceration system that continues to wreak havoc on Black and Brown communities.

The stripping of the right to vote of incarcerated people, especially Black folks, is directly connected to the racist past of our country, from slavery and Jim Crow laws to mass incarceration. It was done with intent, to disenfranchise them for the most sacred right: to choose the people and policies that govern.

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, people need to look it up. There are countries that allow formerly incarcerated people to vote.

Mr. STEIL. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. BUSH. Madam Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from New York (Mr. BOWMAN).

Mr. BOWMAN. Madam Speaker, our friends, our neighbors, and our family...
Members who are entangled in this injustice system did not lose their citizenship, so they should not lose their right to vote. These are people from our communities, still connected strongly to our families, our schools, and our workplaces. As a result, they should not lose their right to vote.

Their right to vote must be restored because these are individuals—people, not criminals—who can still think critically and creatively and contribute to our democracy. Our democracy will remain broken and sick and unhealthy until we heal by restoring the right to vote to our incarcerated individuals.

Mr. STEIL. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. BUSH. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

I thank my colleagues, Representative SARBANES and Representative LOFGREN, for their leadership on this bill.

Madam Speaker, just to put it out there as a reminder, we are talking about actual people. We are talking about humanity. We are talking about accounts—who are talking about the right to vote. These are people. I urge a “yes” vote.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the Bush-Jones Amendment to H.R. 1. A critical amendment which clarifies that felony convictions do not bar any individual from voting in federal elections, including individuals who are currently incarcerated.

This amendment seeks to reverse discriminatory voter restrictions that disproportionately affect the African American voting population, which continues to be targeted by mass incarceration, police profiling, and a biased criminal justice system.

Voting is a right of citizenship, not a privilege of any of us earn, and should not be conected to punishment.

Felony disenfranchisement laws were crafted with the intent to disenfranchise as many African Americans as possible after the Civil War, and today, one in every 16 African Americans of voting age is disenfranchised, a rate 3.7 times greater than that of non-African Americans.

According to PEW Research, over 10 percent of the adult population in Texas was a felon as of 2010. Nearly 5.2 million Americans are disenfranchised while serving time behind bars.

These Americans are full members of our civic life, and they have ties to their families and communities, engage in robust civic life, and many of them have been or will be re-engaged into their communities.

The white supremacists who championed such measures were very clear on their reasons. Disenfranchising a specific group of people undermines democracy, and it does so with a particular impact on people of color.

In many states, state disenfranchisement laws have explicitly racist origins, and it’s time to put this ghost of Jim Crow behind us.
The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 97, nays 328, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 53]

**YEAS—97**

- Adams  
- Bass  
- Beatty  
- Bishop (GA)  
- Blumenauer  
- Blunt (Oregon)  
- Bonamici  
- Bowman  
- Bush  
- Carson  
- Casten  
- Cher  
- Clark (MA)  
- Clarke (NY)  
- Cohen  
- Davis, Danny K.  
- Dean  
- Delahunty  
- Doyle, Michael F.  
- Escobar  
- Espalam  
- Foster  
- Garcia (TX)  
- Golden  
- Gomez, Green (AL)  
- Nadler  
- Grijalva

**NAYS—328**

- Adams, Patsy M.  
- Aguilar  
- Allred  
- Amodei  
- Armstrong  
- Arrington  
- Aum址nchino  
- Axia  
- Bacon  
- Baird  
- Baldwin  
- Barr  
- Bentz  
- Beatty  
- Bech前来  
- Bilirakis  
- Bishop  
- Bost  
- Bost  
- Boxer  
- Brooks  
- Brosius  
- Buchanan  
- Buck  
- Budd  
- Burr  
- Burgos  
- Bustos  
- Caldwell  
- Carper (DE)  
- Carter (GA)  
- Carter (TX)  
- Carter (AK)  
- Casey (NY)  
- Castor (FL)  
- Castor (TX)  
- Carter (WV)  
- Caton  
- Chabot  
- Cheney  
- Cline  
- Clyde  
- Cole  
- Conger  
- Clay  
- Collins  
- Costa  
- Courter  
- Crenshaw  
- Crapo  
- Crawley  
- Crawford  
- Cris  
- Cruz  
- Culver  
- Davis (CT)  
- Davis (KY)  
- DePasquale  
- DeJoy  
- DeLauro  
- Delgado  
- Demings  
- Deutch  
- Diaper  
- Doug  
- Donald  
- Dunn  
- Emmer  
- Eshoo  
- Estes  
- Fallon  
- Feenstra  
- Ferguson  
- Fitzpatrick  
- Fortenberry  
- Fortenberry  
- Foxx  
- Frelinghuysen  
- Franklin, C. J.  
- Fulcher  
- Gaetz  
- Gallager  
- Garamendi  
- Garbarino  
- Giaimo  
- Gibbs  
- Gomez  
- Gonzales, Tony

**NOT VOTING—6**

- Boyle, Brendan F.  
- Fudge

**MRS. WAGNER and Mr. JACOBS of New York changed their vote from "yea" to "nay." **

So the en bloc amendments were rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

**NOT VOTING—6**

- Boyle, Brendan F.  
- Fudge

[Roll No. 53]

**YEAS—97**

- Adams  
- Bass  
- Beatty  
- Bishop (GA)  
- Blumenauer  
- Blunt (Oregon)  
- Bonamici  
- Bowman  
- Bush  
- Carson  
- Casten  
- Cher  
- Clark (MA)  
- Clarke (NY)  
- Cohen  
- Davis, Danny K.  
- Dean  
- Delahunty  
- Doyle, Michael F.  
- Escobar  
- Espalam  
- Foster  
- Garcia (TX)  
- Golden  
- Gomez, Green (AL)  
- Nadler  
- Grijalva

**NAYS—328**

- Adams, Patsy M.  
- Aguilar  
- Allred  
- Amodei  
- Armstrong  
- Arrington  
- Aum址nchino  
- Axia  
- Bacon  
- Baird  
- Baldwin  
- Barr  
- Bentz  
- Beatty  
- Bech前来  
- Bilirakis  
- Bishop  
- Bost  
- Bost  
- Boxer  
- Brooks  
- Brosius  
- Buchanan  
- Buck  
- Budd  
- Burr  
- Burgos  
- Bustos  
- Caldwell  
- Carper (DE)  
- Carter (GA)  
- Carter (TX)  
- Carter (AK)  
- Casey (NY)  
- Castor (FL)  
- Castor (TX)  
- Carter (WV)  
- Caton  
- Chabot  
- Cheney  
- Cline  
- Clyde  
- Cole  
- Conger  
- Clay  
- Collins  
- Costa  
- Courter  
- Crenshaw  
- Crapo  
- Crawley  
- Crawford  
- Cris  
- Cruz  
- Culver  
- Davis (CT)  
- Davis (KY)  
- DePasquale  
- DeJoy  
- DeLauro  
- Delgado  
- Demings  
- Deutch  
- Diaper  
- Doug  
- Donald  
- Dunn  
- Emmer  
- Eshoo  
- Estes  
- Fallon  
- Feenstra  
- Ferguson  
- Fitzpatrick  
- Fortenberry  
- Fortenberry  
- Foxx  
- Frelinghuysen  
- Franklin, C. J.  
- Fulcher  
- Gaetz  
- Gallager  
- Garamendi  
- Garbarino  
- Giaimo  
- Gibbs  
- Gomez  
- Gonzales, Tony

**NOT VOTING—6**

- Boyle, Brendan F.  
- Fudge
Mr. Speaker, absolutely no one wants foreign interference in our elections.

Mr. Speaker, absolutely no one wants foreign interference in our elections, but the last thing we need to do is create an impenetrable wall of bureaucracy when we have programs in place that have been successful for our local election officials. It is because of some great work by CISA that we should be recognized.

Mr. Speaker, finally, this amendment would violate separation of powers and attempt to control the judicial branch, threatening our independent courts. It is disappointing that this is the only amendment of mine and the other Republican members of the committee that the majority Democrats allowed through.

We submitted 25 amendments to restore the ability to run our elections to the States and localities that this bill takes away; eliminate the fund to publicly finance campaigns using corporate dollars and instead use that money for pandemic relief for the American people; prevent sitting Members of Congress’ campaigns from benefiting. We also included Americans’ First Amendment right, without fear of retaliation from the Federal Government; and the list goes on and on.

Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, the majority did not allow these amendments to come to the floor. While I urge passage of this amendment, for those reasons and many more, I urge a “no” vote on the underlying legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to oppose the amendment.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 179, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS) and a Member opposed each will be recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, the need for this amendment is another example of this bill not being updated from last year.

We have made huge efforts on cyber issues and successfully had an election year with no foreign interference. This is in large part due to the efforts of DHS and the Election Assistance Commission. I even took part this summer in a tabletop exercise to prepare for cyberattacks.

Mr. Speaker, if we had considered this bill in committee, we could have talked about our success in this area during the last election. This is another example of the Democrats not knowing what is in their legislation and rolling out their standard bill without a thoughtful review.

Absolutely no one wants foreign interference in our elections.

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Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to oppose the amendment.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 179, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS) and a Member opposed each will be recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, this amendment would strike subtitle C of title III. The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 179, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS) and a Member opposed each will be recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

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Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to oppose the amendment.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 179, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS) and a Member opposed each will be recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this amendment would strike subtitle C of title III, the election security title in H.R. 1, which requires the President to produce a national strategy for protecting U.S. democratic institutions. It also creates a national commission to protect United States democratic institutions to counter threats.

In light of the evidence of foreign interference in the 2016, 2018, and 2020 elections, the Federal Government needs a coordinated approach to protect and secure our democracy. While our election infrastructure officials have said that the 2020 election was the most secure in history, we know it is not because our foreign adversaries are no longer attempting to interfere in our elections. They will continue their efforts, and we must take steps to ensure our elections continue to be secure.

This provision in H.R. 1 is important to that endeavor. The national strategy will provide guidance on how to protect against cyberattacks, influence operations, disinformation campaigns, and other activities that could undermine the security and integrity of United States democratic institutions.

The purpose of the national commission to protect the United States democratic institutions is to counter efforts to undermine our institutions within the United States. The national strategy and commission will be important to protecting the integrity of our elections and preventing foreign interference in our democracy.

Mr. Speaker, we must stay vigilant. Our enemies are not resting, and neither are we. This provision is an important part of the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote “no” on the amendment from the gentleman from Illinois. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I will just note that I oppose this amendment. I will wait until the next amendment to go into the underlying bill. I think much of what has been said this morning and this afternoon is simply incorrect.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a “yes” vote on this amendment. It is a common sense amendment that is going to protect the bipartisan work that our officials have done to protect Americans’ elections and address cybersecurity issues and foreign interference.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 179, the previous question is ordered on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS). The question is on the amendment.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the noes appear to have it.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays. The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.
Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question are postponed.

AMENDMENTS EN BLOC NO. 3 OFFERED BY MS. LOFGREN OF CALIFORNIA

Ms. LOFGREN. Pursuant to House Resolution 179, I rise to offer amendments en bloc.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will designate the amendments en bloc.

Amendments en bloc No. 3 consisting of amendment Nos. 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, and 37, printed in part B of House Report 117–9, offered by Ms. LOFGREN of California:

AMENDMENT NO. 22 OFFERED BY MR. GALLEGO OF ARIZONA

Page 264, after line 20, insert the following new section (and redesignate the succeeding section accordingly):

SEC. 1933. AUTHORIZING PAYMENTS TO VOTING ACCESSIBILITY PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY SYSTEMS SERVING THE AMERICAN INDIAN CONSORTIUM. (a) RECIPIENTS DEFINED.—Section 291 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 21061) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (b) the following new subsection:

"(c) AMERICAN INDIAN CONSORTIUM ELIGIBILITY.—A system serving the American Indian Consortium for which funds have been reserved under section 509(c)(1)(B) of the Rehilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794(c)(1)(B)) shall be eligible for payments under subsection (a) in the same manner as a protection and advocacy system of a State.";

(b) GRANT MINDSTARS FOR AMERICAN INDIAN CONSORTIUM.—Section 291(b) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 21061(b)) is amended—

(1) by inserting "(c)(1)(B)," after "as set forth in subsections"; and

(2) by striking "subsection (c)(2)(B) and (c)(4)(B) of that section shall not be less than $70,000 and $35,000, respectively" and inserting "subsection (c)(3)(B) shall not be less than $70,000 and $35,000, respectively";

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect at the date of enactment of this Act.

AMENDMENT NO. 26 OFFERED BY MRS. LAWRENCE OF MICHIGAN

Page 192, line 14, insert the following: "matters; and insert "materials; and restrictions on operational changes prior to elections.".

Page 192, insert after line 15 the following (and redesignate the succeeding provisions accordingly):

"(b) During the 120-day period which ends on the date of an election for Federal office, the Commission, after consulting with the Secretary of State, shall publish a report that sets out any new operational change that would restrict the prompt and reliable delivery of voting materials with respect to the election, including, without limitation, applications, absentee ballot applications, and absentee ballots. This paragraph applies to operational changes which include removing or eliminating any mail collection box without immediately replacing it, and removing, decommissioning, or any other form of stopping the operation of mail sorting machines, other than for routine maintenance.

AMENDMENT NO. 27 OFFERED BY MRS. LAWRENCE OF MICHIGAN

Page 192, after line 15, insert the following (and redesignate subsection (b) as subsection (c)):

"(b) The Postal Service shall appoint an Election Mail Coordinator in every Postal Area and District to facilitate relevant information sharing with State, territorial, local, and tribal election officials in regards to the mailing of voter registration applications, absentee ballot applications, and absentee ballots.

AMENDMENT NO. 29 OFFERED BY MR. GRIJALVA OF ARIZONA

Page 84, after line 10, insert the following:

(7) The number of individuals who were purged from the official voter registration list or moved to inactive status, broken down by the reason for those actions, including the method used for identifying those voters.

AMENDMENT NO. 31 OFFERED BY MR. GRIJALVA OF ARIZONA

Page 164, line 14, after the period insert the following: "The notice shall take into consideration factors including the linguistic preferences of voters in the jurisdiction."

Page 293, line 2 before the period insert the following: "(5) taking into consideration factors which include the linguistic preferences of voters in the jurisdiction."

Page 293, line 1 before the colon insert the following: "(5) taking into consideration factors which include the linguistic preferences of voters in the jurisdiction."

AMENDMENT NO. 33 OFFERED BY MR. LANGEVIN OF RHODE ISLAND

Page 361, strike lines 6 through 10 and insert the following:

(a) DUTIES OF ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION.—Section 202 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 20922) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking "by" and inserting "and the security of election infrastructure by"; and

(2) by striking the semicolon at the end of paragraph (a) and inserting the following: "and the development, maintenance and dissemination of cybersecurity guidelines to identify vulnerabilities that could lead to, protect against, detect, respond to and recover from cybersecurity incidents.";

Page 364, insert after line 24 the following:

"(g) SENIOR CYBER POLICY ADVISOR.—The Cyber Policy Advisor, after the date of the enactment of this Act, shall be known as the Senior Cyber Policy Advisor, who shall be appointed by the Commission and who shall serve under the Director, and who shall be the primary policy advisor to the Commission on matters of cybersecurity for Federal elections.

AMENDMENT NO. 32 OFFERED BY MR. PHILLIPS OF MINNESOTA

Page 266, insert after line 5 the following (and redesignate the succeeding provision accordingly):

PART 5—VOTER NOTICE

SEC. 1941. SHORT TITLE. This part may be cited as the "Voter Notice of Timely Information about Changes in Elections Act" or the "Voter Notice Act."

SEC. 1942. PUBLIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGNS IN EVENT OF CHANGES IN ELECTIONS IN RESPONSE TO EMERGENCIES. (a) REQUIREMENT FOR ELECTION OFFICIALS TO CONDUCT CAMPAIGNS.—Section 202 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 21082), as amended by section 1601(a) and section 1901(a), is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (g) as subsection (h); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (f) the following new subsection:

"(g) PUBLIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGNS IN EVENT OF CHANGES IN ELECTIONS IN RESPONSE TO EMERGENCIES.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—If the administration of an election for Federal office, including the methods of voting or registering to vote in the election, is changed in response to an emergency affecting public health and safety, the appropriate State or local election official shall conduct a public education campaign through at least the direct mailing to each individual who is registered to vote in the election, and through additional direct mailings, newspaper advertisements, broadcast media (including radio, satellite, and the Internet), and social media, to notify individuals who are eligible to vote or to register to vote in the election of the changes.

(2) FREQUENCY AND METHODS OF PROVIDING INFORMATION.—The election official shall carry out the public education campaign under this subsection at such frequency, and using such methods, as will have the greatest likelihood of providing timely knowledge of the change in the administration of the election to those individuals for whom it will be most adversely affected by the change.

(3) LANGUAGE ACCESSIBILITY.—In the case of a State or political subdivision that is a covered State or political subdivision under section 203 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 1953), the appropriate election official shall ensure that material is disseminated under a public education campaign conducted under this subsection is provided in the language of the applicable minority group as well as in the English language, as required by section 203 of such Act.

(4) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This subsection shall apply with respect to the regularly scheduled general election held in November 2020 and each succeeding election for Federal office.".
November 2020 and each succeeding election
apply with respect to the regularly scheduled
general election for Federal office held in

SEC. 313. REQUIREMENTS FOR WEBSITES OF ELECTION OFFICIALS.

(a) Requirements.—Subtitle A of title III of the
Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 21081 et seq.), as amended by section
1031(c), is amended—

(1) by striking and inserting “(f)(3)”; and

(2) by adding after section 1031 the following:

SEC. 1031. REQUIREMENTS FOR WEBSITES OF ELECTION OFFICIALS.

“(a) Accessibility.—Each State and local election official shall ensure that the official public website of the official is fully accessible for individuals with disabilities, including the blind and visually impaired, in a manner that is also the same opportunity for access and participation as the website provides for other individuals.

“(b) Continuing Operation in Case of Emergency.

“(1) Establishment of Best Practices.—

“(A) In General.—The Director of the Na-
tional Institutes of Standards and Technology shall establish and regularly update best practices for ensuring the continuing operation of the official public website of State and local election officials during emergencies affecting public health and safety.

“(B) Deadline.—The Director shall first establish the best practices required under this paragraph as soon as practicable after the date of the enactment of this section, but in no case later than August 15, 2021.

“(2) Requirements for Websites to Meet Best Practices.—Each State and local election official shall ensure that the official public website of the official is in compliance with the best practices established by the Director of the National Institutes of Standards and Technology under paragraph (2).

“(c) Effective Date.—This section shall apply with respect to the regularly scheduled general election for Federal office held in November 2020 and each succeeding election for Federal office.

(b) Conforming Amendment Relating to Adoption of Voluntary Guidance by Election Officials.—Section 314(c), and section 312(a) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 21101(b), as redesignated and amended by section 1101(b) and section 1611(a), is amended—

(1) by striking “and” at the end of paragraph (4);

(2) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (5) and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end of the following new paragraph:

“(5) in the case of the recommendations with respect to section 304, as soon as practicable after the date of the enactment of this paragraph, but in no case later than August 15, 2021.”.

(c) Clerical Amendment.—The table of contents of such Act, as amended by section 1011(c), section 1101(d), section 1611(c), section 1621(c), section 1622(c), section 1623(a), section 1609(b), section 1607(b), and section 1606(b), is amended—

(1) by redesignating the items relating to sections 313 and 314 as relating to sections 314 and 315; and

(2) by adding after the item relating to section 312 the following new item:

“Sec. 313. Requirements for websites of election officials.”.

SEC. 1944. PAYMENTS BY ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION TO STATES FOR COSTS OF COMPLIANCE.

(a) Availability of Payments.—Title IX of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 21141 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“Sec. 907. PAYMENTS TO COMMISSION FOR COSTS OF COMPLIANCE WITH CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO PUBLIC NOTICE.

“(a) PAYMENTS.—

“(1) AVAILABILITY AND USE OF PAYMENTS.—The Commission shall make a payment to each eligible State to cover the costs the State incurs or expects to incur in meeting the requirements of section 302(g) (relating to a public education campaign in event of changes in elections in response to emergencies) and section 313 (relating to requirements for the websites of election officials).

“(2) SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS.—As soon as practicable after the date of the enactment of this section, and not less frequently than once each calendar year thereafter, the Commission shall make payments under this section.

“(3) ADMINISTRATION OF PAYMENTS.—The chief State election official of the State shall receive the payment made to the State under this section, and may use the payment for the purposes set forth in this section without incurring action by the legislature of the State.

“(b) AMOUNT OF PAYMENT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The amount of a payment made under this section shall be determined by the Commission on the basis of the information provided by the State in its application under subsection (c).

“(2) CONTINUING AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS AFTER PAYMENT.—A payment made to an eligible State under this section shall be available without fiscal year limitation.

“(c) REQUIREMENTS FOR ELIGIBILITY.—

“(1) APPLICATION.—Each State that desires to receive a payment under this section for a fiscal year shall submit an application for the payment to the Commission at such time and in such manner and containing such information as the Commission shall require.

“(2) CONTESTS OF APPLICATION.—If an application submitted under paragraph (1) is not in compliance with the requirements of this section, the Commission determines to be essential to ensure compliance with the requirements of this section

“(d) Authorization of Appropriations.—There are authorized to be appropriated for payments under this section such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 2022 through 2025.

“(e) Reports by Recipients.—

“(1) REPORTS BY RECIPIENTS.—Not later than 6 months after the end of each fiscal year for which an eligible State received a payment under this section, the State shall submit a report to the Commission on the activities conducted with the funds provided during the year.

“(2) REPORTS BY COMMITTEE COMMITMENTS.—With respect to each fiscal year for which the Commission makes payments under this section, the Commission shall submit a report to the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate.

(c) Clerical Amendment.—The table of contents of such Act is amended by adding at the end of the table the following:

Page 261, insert before line 21 the following (and redesignate the succeeding provision accordingly):

SEC. 1933. APPLICATION OF FEDERAL VOTER PROTECTION LAWS TO TERRITORIES OF THE UNITED STATES.

(a) Intimidation of Voters.—Section 594 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking “Delegate from the District of Columbia, or Resident Commissioner,” and inserting “Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress”,

(b) Interference by Government Employes.—Section 595 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking “Delegate from the District of Columbia, or Resident Commissioner,” and inserting “Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress”,

(c) Voting by Noncitizens.—Section 611(a) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking “Delegate from the District of Columbia, or Resident Commissioner,” and inserting “Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress”,

Page 261, insert before line 21 the following (and redesignate the succeeding provision accordingly):

SEC. 1932. PLACEMENT OF STATUES OF CITIZENS OF TERRITORIES OF THE UNITED STATES IN STATUARY HALL.

(a) In General.—Section 1814 of the Re-

Page 262, line 19, strike “Delegate from the Di-

Page 77, line 18, strike “States and the Dis-

Page 85, line 10, strike “and” and insert the fol-

Page 459, insert after line 22 the following:
and the reporting requirements of this Act, and
cepts donations or contributions that do not
ature with respect to the election.
the making of a contribution or expendi-
tment to make a contribution or expenditure
pledge, promise, understanding, or agree-
son making the contribution or donation,
name of the committee, the name of the per-
period beginning on the 20th day before any
election in connection with which the com-
mittee makes a contribution or expenditure
$5,000 received by the committee during the
super PAC, shall notify the Commission of
following new subparagraph:
''(v) In this subparagraph, the term 'super
''(iii) For purposes of this subparagraph, a
pledge, promise, understanding, or agree-
ment with respect to an election shall be treated
as the making of a contribution or expendi-
ture with respect to the election.
''(iv) This subparagraph does not apply to an
authorized committee of a candidate or any
committee of a political party.
''(v) In this subparagraph, the term 'super
PAC' means a political committee which ac-
cepts contributions that do not comply with the
limitations, prohibitions, and reporting require-
ments of this Act, and includes an account of such a
committee which is authorized to incur the purpose of
accepting such donations or contributions.''.
(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment
made by subsection (a) shall apply with re-
spect to elections occurring during 2022 or
any succeeding year.
The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant
to House Resolution 179, the gen-
tlewoman from California (Ms. LOF-
GREN) and the gentleman from Illinois
(Mr. ROYD DAY) each will control 10
minutes.
The Chair recognizes the gentle-
woman from California.
Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I yield
myself such time as I may consume.
Mr. Speaker, this bloc of amend-
ments provides important additions to the
bill.
Among the amendments in the bloc is an amendment from the gentleman
from Arizona that promotes language accessibility for voting and ensures
that notices at polling locations take into consideration factors including the
languages spoken in the jurisdic-
tion.
An amendment from the gentleman
from New Mexico improves voting ac-
cess for individuals with disabilities in
the Four Corners region of Arizona,
New Mexico, Colorado, and Utah by making technical fixes to the Protec-
tion and Advocacy for Voting Access program.
An amendment from the gentle-
men from Rhode Island and Wisconsin im-
plements a recommendation of the
Cyberspace Solarium Commission to
ensure the security of our elections and
resilience of our democracy by creating
the position of a senior cyber policy ad-
viser at the Election Assistance Com-
mission.
An amendment from the gentle-
woman from Virginia and Florida pro-
hibits taxpayer funds from being added
into the freedom from influence fund.
During the 2020 election, Postmaster
DeJoy implemented sudden operational changes that disrupted timely mail services and the delivery
of absentee ballots. An amendment in
this bloc from the gentlewoman from
Michigan ensures that can never hap-
pen again by prohibiting operational changes at the Postal Service for 120
days before a Federal election.
This bloc of amendments also in-
cludes an amendment from the gen-
tleman and gentlewoman from Min-
nnesota that requires State election of-
icials to undertake accessible public education campaigns to inform voters
of any changes to election processes made in response to public emer-
gencies.

Finally, it includes four amendments
from the gentlewoman from the Virgin
Islands. One of these amendments ap-
pplies Federal voter protection laws to
the territories, including protection against interference, and voting by aliens in Federal elections in the territory; that would
be noncitizens.
Another of these amendments per-
mits each of the territories to provide
and furnish statues in Statuary Hall.
That is an important amendment that
allows each of the territories representa-
tion among the statues in the Halls of
Congress. These amendments rep-
resent long overdue recognition of im-
portant contributions of the terri-
tories.
Mr. Speaker, I support these amend-
ments, and I urge their adoption, and I
reserve the balance of my time.
Mr. ROYD DAY of Illinois. Mr.
Speaker, I rise in opposition at this
point in time.
Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the
gentlewoman from Iowa (Mrs. HINSON),
another star of the historic diverse
class of new freshmen.
Mrs. HINSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise
today in opposition to H.R. 1.
The 2020 election and its aftermath
were chaotic and harmful to our de-
mocracy. We should be working hard
in this Chamber in a bipartisan way to
restore faith in our electoral process.
I have heard my colleagues across
the aisle say that this bill would help
to transform our elections. They are
certainly right about that. H.R. 1 is the
largest expansion of the Federal Gov-
ernment's role in our elections, ever.
It would take away States constitu-
tional authority to conduct their own elec-
tions. When I was in the Iowa State
House, we worked hard to secure our
election system, to safeguard against
fraud, and to ensure that only legal votes were counted. Our goal in Iowa
was to make it easy to vote and hard to
cheat, and we succeeded in doing that.
But H.R. 1 would overrule those ef-
efforts, and it would force Washington's one-size-fits-all policy prac-
tices on Iowans. H.R. 1 would also send
taxpayer dollars directly to political
candidates. That is right. The Federal
Government would send your money to
fill the campaign coffers of a politician
you might not even agree with.
This bill would take authority away
from Iowans to run their own elections
while Democrats here in Congress are
also laying the groundwork to overturn
the official election results in Iowa's
Second Congressional District, where
the votes have been counted, re-
certified, and certified for Congress-
woman MARIANETTE MILLER-MEERKS.
Our Constitution is clear, States de-
termines elections, not Congress.
H.R. 1 will harm and it will not pro-
tect the integrity of our elections. Mr.
Speaker, I urge my colleagues in this
body to vote "no" on this bill.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I
thank the gentlewoman from Cali-
fornia, the chair of the Committee on
House Administration, for the work
that she has done.
It is interesting to hear a speech by
the former President, following in his
tradition of denial of democracy, inter-
ference, and violation of privacy. H.R. 1 pro-
vides an opportunity for justice and
the right to vote guaranteed to all adult
citizens. This legislation recognizes that and
recognizes that the dark days of 4
years ago of voter suppression and op-
position to minorities voting, the lack of
empowerment, are over with in H.R. 1.
I want to say that the amendments 22 and 23, to ensure that individuals
with disabilities can vote.
I want to make sure that young peo-
ple on college campuses are not dis-
criminated against, as they have been in
the past, with polling places that they have had to stand in long
lines.
I want to make sure that women are protected in privacy with
making sure that their addresses are
not printed so that they will not be
subjected to assault, sexual assault,
and violation of privacy. H.R. 1 pro-
vides an opportunity for justice and

H1006  CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — HOUSE  March 2, 2021
Mr. ROYDEN DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1¼ minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. HICE), the subcommittee chair that has oversight of elections on the Oversight Committee.

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, listen, the American people expect and deserve free and fair elections. They deserve to have one legal vote cast and one legal vote counted, but H.R. 1 turns all of our election process upside down. It upends our entire election system.

Why are we doing this?

As my friend mentioned, on the Oversight Committee, the entire year last year in Oversight, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle tried to push H.R. 1 because of COVID, and we saw what that did in our elections this past year, it totally created chaos. But now we want to nationalize it.

The worst thing in the world that can happen is the federal government nationalize our election system. Part of what is in here is universal mail-in ballots to everyone on the voter registration files. What a disaster. We know those files are probably 10 percent. So we are going to have millions of illegal voters receive live ballots. Then there is zero voter ID associated with this.

Why in the world would we want no voter ID, unless this is some sort of scheme to give illegal voters the opportunity to vote without any proof of who they are, that they are legal?

This is an absolute disaster, and ballot harvesting is a part of this, restricting the right of States to run their own elections.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a “no” vote on this.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Michigan (Mrs. LAWRENCE).

Mrs. LAWRENCE of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my amendments, 26 and 27, to H.R. 1. The Postal Service has been an essential service for the American people for centuries, written into our Constitution. And as we take steps to expand voting by mail, we must ensure that the Postal Service is not weaponized to restrict its mission to promptly and effectively deliver mail.

My first amendment would require the Postal Service to appoint an election mail coordinator to assist election officials. My second amendment would prohibit the Postal Service from enacting any new operational change that would restrict the prompt delivery of mail materials 4 months before the election, specifically, targeting any removal of the collection boxes and sorting boxes.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support these amendments as part of this effort.

Mr. ROYDEN DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, can I inquire again how much time is remaining? We have a lot of folks who want to talk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Illinois has 6½ minutes remaining and the gentleman from California has 5 minutes remaining.

Mr. ROYDEN DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mrs. HARSHBARGER), a member of this historic freshman class.

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 1 today.

Despite its name, this act is not for the people. It is for the politicians seeking power.

East Tennesseans and Americans want election reform that increases the security and integrity of our election, and they are demanding it. Instead, this bill erodes the public confidence in our elections. This bill picks D.C. bureaucrats over State and local officials, and it uses hard-earned tax dollars to fund political campaigns by a 6-to-1 fund-matching provision. Now, let me repeat that. It is a 6-to-1 fund-matching provision.

I am sure my fellow east Tennesseans agree this is a waste of money.

Wouldn’t you rather have our tax dollars used to fund measures to safely open schools or to expand critical access to rural broadband?

These are the priorities we need to fund, not political power grabs and public financing of our own political campaigns.

Mr. Speaker, I oppose, and I urge my colleagues to oppose H.R. 1.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN).

Mr. LEVIN of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, Americans want to know that government officials don’t have conflicts of interest swaying their decisions.

For example, did they fundraise from an industry that they will regulate? Might they take it easy on that industry as a result?

H.R. 1 requires high-level officials to disclose if they have solicited or made political contributions to PACs, political nonprofits, or industry trade associations. I thank Congressman DEUTCH for authoring this provision.

My amendment expands this piece to cover chiefs of mission to ensure that officials representing our country abroad, such as ambassadors, are free from conflicts of interest, too. We should feel confident that people entrusted to represent the United States are there not because of political donations, but because they are the best person for the job.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this amendment, the en bloc, and H.R. 1.

Mr. ROYDEN DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMIERT), I may live to regret it, but I will do it anyway, my good friend.

Mr. GOHMIERT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member. This bill that is supposed to be for the people, one of the things it is really supposed to do, we have been told, you know, this is going to eliminate foreign interference with our bill. They have been preaching on it for years. There was the whole Russia hoax, all these other things. It turns out there hasn’t been foreign interference, but the friends across the aisle were not serious, and I am not serious with this bill about eliminating all foreign interference.

In fact, that is why I filed an amendment that would have addressed that. They got loopholes big enough to drive several trucks through. So we took a shot, my amendment. My amendment says, “Each State shall ensure that no foreign entity carries out any role in the administration of elections for Federal office in the State, including providing, maintaining, programming, operating, storing, or compiling any of the equipment, software, supplies, or information used in the administration of the election.”

“A nonprofit organization may not carry out any activities related to voting elections for Federal office in a State if the organization accepts any funds from a foreign entity.”

And then it defines foreign entity, where it covers everybody and everything that is not American.

So we have got this amendment that would completely plug the loopholes that the Democrats have so that foreigners can’t continue to influence the election.

And what do they do? They say:

Your amendment, we don’t want it.

It is not in order. We are not even going to give you a vote on it.

They are not serious about eliminating foreign interference, and that is a shame.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, may I ask how much time is remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Illinois has 3½ minutes remaining. The gentleman from Illinois has 3½ minutes remaining.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from North Carolina (Ms. MANNING).

Ms. MANNING. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my amendment, which would bolster the mandate that no voter be forced to wait longer than 30 minutes to cast their ballot.

In my home State of North Carolina, it is not uncommon for voters to wait in line for hours on election day to vote. Long wait times come at a cost. For people who work or have family obligations, it is challenging to stand in line for hours to exercise their constitutional right to vote.

Sadly, North Carolina is not alone. In recent elections, we have witnessed lengthy wait times at polling locations across the country. Research shows that people who live in poor and more diverse neighborhoods are more likely to wait over an hour to vote.

Long wait times amount to voter suppression, plain and simple, by causing voters to leave before voting, by
discouraging people from voting in future elections, and by decreasing confidence in our democratic process.

Mr. Speaker, we must end this tactic of voter suppression, and I urge my colleagues to vote for this amendment.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA), who was my fellow classmate in the 113th Congress.

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, American voters deserve to have confidence in their election process. This is not it.

A few basic principles: voter ID so we know who is showing up and who is receiving ballots; a clean set of voting rolls so the people who are eligible—of all types, the people who are truly eligible in this country—are voting from their proper domicile; we know they are citizens; and we know they are the right age.

But somehow we find these things to be politic, somehow it is going to be suppressing votes—what, for people being eligible to vote being the actual voters that they live in the right State, that they are the right age, and that they are citizens?

It is ridiculous the lengths that the Democrats are going to up the election process and the confidence people have in it. It could be really quite simple. Have the election end on election night. In one place in my district, they found a box 30-something days before the election. They had to open back up the certified election to take care of a box that had drop-off ballots in it.

We are making a farce out of our elections in this country. And this, by nationalizing them, will make it that much worse. In the Constitution, the Congress established the States will run their elections. We only need to have very narrow guidelines for how our Federal ones are conducted.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. PHILLIPS).

Mr. PHILLIPS. Mr. Speaker, Congress should be making it easier for Americans to vote, not harder. That is why I am pleased to support H.R. 1, especially in the face of reprehensible efforts all around the country to disenfranchise legal American voters.

I also believe that when a State changes its election procedures, they have the duty to ensure that voters are informed of those changes. That is why I wrote an amendment to H.R. 1 called the Voter NOTICE Act, which simply requires States to form public outreach to ensure that voters are proactively made aware of their voting rights.

As we are too well aware, Mr. Speaker, bad actors are all too eager to exploit uncertainty and spread disinformation to mislead Americans and divert the will of the people. The antidote is truth, and the Voter NOTICE Act will deliver it.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I keep bringing up our historic freshman class. I have got another member of that historic freshman class who, frankly, has made history, too, in her short time here. Mr. Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from Georgia (Mrs. GREENE).

Mrs. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 1. While we are talking about voter suppression and long lines, I would like to point out that there is real voter suppression right here in Congress. Many Members of Congress have to stand in long lines to enter the Chamber going through metal detectors, emptying our pockets, and being treated very disrespectfully. That is real voter suppression, and it is a shame that it happens right here on the House floor.

Standing in line to vote is not suppression. It is just part of the voting process, just like people stand in line to buy groceries in the grocery store. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, may I ask how much time is remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Illinois is recognized for 2 minutes to solve the problems of the bill clearly and effectively.

Mr. Speaker, the amendments in this bloc continue the Democrats’ efforts to attack our constitutional system by nationalizing our elections and attacking the First Amendment. Even the Speaker herself said earlier on the floor that this body should consider all improvements to the underlying bill. I was really stunned to hear a comparison between Members of Congress going through metal detectors—because some Members have, in violation of the rules, carried weapons on to the House floor—and voters having to wait 8 hours to get to the polling booth, which actually happened last November.

It is important that American voters have access to the polls to cast their vote and to have that lawfully cast vote counted as cast. That is what this is about.

I listened to my colleague and my friend, Mr. DAVIS, complain about the constitutional basis for H.R. 1. But he has also introduced bills like H.R. 6882, Section 4 of the Constitution, which would all require States to do certain things with respect to how they conduct elections.

I might disagree with the policies in those bills, but they all cite Article I, Section 4 of the Constitution as the basis for their legitimacy. So to say that we cannot improve the elections in America under Article I, Section 4 simply is not correct.

So we will have more debate as these proceedings on H.R. 1 conclude, but I will close with this: Please do support the en bloc amendments. It improves the bill, and we will, hopefully, be passing H.R. 1 to make America an even greater place in the near future.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of En Bloc Amendment No. 3 to H.R. 1, which includes the Gallego Amendment, an important contribution to H.R. 1 that makes a long overdue technical fix to the Help American Veteran Act to ensure and to protect the right to vote for Native Americans and others living with disabilities in the four corners region of Arizona, New Mexico, Utah and Colorado.

Specifically, this amendment will extend funding under the Protection and Advocacy for Voting Access program to the Native American Disability Law Center to ensure people with disabilities in the region can fully participate in the electoral process.

Too often, voters in this region drive hours to reach their nearest polling place, only to find that the ballot is not accessible to them due to inadequate disability training, ADA accessibility, or other impediments to the constitutional right to vote.

Voting is a right of citizenship, and every polling place should be adequately equipped to serve those with disabilities.

Nearly 15 percent of those eligible to vote in Texas are persons with disabilities—almost 3
The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the question on amendment No. 19, printed in part B of House Report 117-9, on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS).

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 218, nays 207, not voting 6, as follows:

FOR THE PEOPLE ACT OF 2021

YEAS—218

Yeas—218

NAYS—207

NAYS—207

Mr. Speaker, on that amendment, pursuant to House Resolution 179, the yeas and nays were ordered.

The question was taken; and the proceedings were postponed.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 10 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule 1, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 10 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

FOR THE PEOPLE ACT OF 2021

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, further consideration of the bill (H. R. 1) to expand Americans’ access to the ballot box, reduce the influence of big money in politics, strengthen ethics rules for public servants, and implement other anti-corruption measures for the purpose of fortifying our democracy, and for other purposes will now resume.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

AMENDMENT NO. 19 OFFERED BY MR. RODNEY DAVIS OF ILLINOIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the question on amendment No. 19, printed in part B of House Report 117-9, on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the yeas and nays were ordered. The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS).

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 218, nays 207, not voting 6, as follows:

(Roll No. 54)

Mr. Speaker, on that amendment, pursuant to House Resolution 179, the yeas and nays were ordered.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, on that amendment, pursuant to section 3(a) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question are postponed.

Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, further consideration of H. R. 1 is postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule 1, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o’clock and 10 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1759

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. DINGELL) at 5 o’clock and 59 minutes p.m.

FOR THE PEOPLE ACT OF 2021

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, further consideration of the bill (H. R. 1) to expand Americans’ access to the ballot box, reduce the influence of big money...
REVISION TO THE AGGREGATES, ALLOCATIONS, AND OTHER BUDGETARY LEVELS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET,

WASHINGTON, DC, March 2, 2021.

MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (BCA) and the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2021 (S. Con. Res. 5 (117th Congress)), I hereby submit for printing in the Congressional Record a revision to the aggregates and allocations set forth in the Statement of Aggregates, Allocations, and Other Budgetary Levels for Fiscal Year 2021 published in the Congressional Record on February 26, 2021.

This adjustment responds to House consideration of the bill, the For the People Act of 2021 (H.R. 1), as provided for consideration in the House pursuant to H. Res. 179. This adjustment is allowable under sections 3002 and 3003 of title XIX of the CBA and other budgetary en bloc amendments set forth in the Statement of Aggregates, Allocations, and Other Budgetary Levels for Fiscal Year 2021.

Accordingly, I am revising the aggregate spending level for fiscal year 2021 and the aggregate revenue level for 2021-2030, as well as the allocation for the Committee on House Administration for fiscal year 2020 and 2021-2030. For purposes of enforcing titles I and IV of the CBA and other budgetary enforcement provisions, the revised aggregates:

- For the People Act of 2021 (H.R. 1)
- H. Res. 179
- S. Con. Res. 5 (117th Congress)

Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, further consideration of H. R. 1 is postponed.
and allocation are to be considered as aggregates and allocations included in the budget resolution, pursuant to the Statement published in the Congressional Record on February 16, 2021.

Questions may be directed to Jennifer Wheelock or Raquel Spencer of the Budget Committee staff.

Sincerely,

JOHN YARMUTH, Chairman.

TABLE 1.—REVISION TO BUDGET AGGREGATE TOTALS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget Authority</th>
<th>Outlays</th>
<th>Revenues</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>9,818,372</td>
<td>9,918,417</td>
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<tr>
<td>2021-2010</td>
<td>35,077,915</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
</tr>
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Revision for consideration in the House pursuant to H. Res. 179.

TABLE 2.—REVISED ALLOCATION OF SPENDING AUTHORITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Budget Authority</th>
<th>Outlays</th>
<th>Revenues</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revision for consideration in the House pursuant to H. Res. 179.</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Transportation, Atmospheric Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards; Motorcycle Brake Systems; Motorcycle Combination and Sequential Tail Lamp Systems; and Federal Test Procedure for Vehicle Emissions; and transporting the report on the Department's final rule — Amendments to Capital Planning and Stress Testing Requirements for Large Bank Holding Companies, Intermediate Holding Companies and Savings and Loan Holding Companies; and hiking the report on the Department's final rule — Amendments to the Department of Justice's revised requirements for Community Reinvestment Act Plans; and transmitting the report on the Department's final rule — Amendments to the Department of the Treasury's final rule — Airworthiness Directives: Airbus SAS Airplanes (Docket No.: FAA-2020-0844; Product Identifier 2020-0465; Project Identifier MCAI-2020-0949-T); Amendment 39-21376; AD 2020-26-15 (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 16, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.</td>
<td>1,717</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>1,875</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 5(a)(1)(B) of House Resolution 8, the House stands adjourned until a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon (at 7 o'clock and 37 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, March 3, 2021, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-485. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Vice Admiral Michael J. Dumont, United States Navy Reserve, and his advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1370(c)(1); Public Law 96-513, Sec. 112 (as amended by Public Law 104-106, Sec. 502(b)); (110 Stat. 293); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-486. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Rear Admiral John E. Tillman, United States Navy Reserve, and his advancement to the grade of rear admiral on the retired list, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1370(c)(1); Public Law 96-513, Sec. 112 (as amended by Public Law 104-106, Sec. 502(b)); (110 Stat. 293); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-487. A letter from the Congressional Assistant II, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting the System's final rule — Amendments to Capital Planning and Stress Testing Requirements for Large Bank Holding Companies, Intermediate Holding Companies and Savings and Loan Holding Companies; and hiking the report on the Department's final rule — Amendments to the Department of Justice's revised requirements for Community Reinvestment Act Plans; and transmitting the report on the Department's final rule — Amendments to the Department of the Treasury's final rule — Airworthiness Directives: Airbus SAS Airplanes (Docket No.: FAA-2020-0844; Product Identifier 2020-0465; Project Identifier MCAI-2020-0949-T); Amendment 39-21376; AD 2020-26-15 (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 16, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-496. A letter from the Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting the report on the Department's final rule — Amendments to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, for the six months ending June 30, 2019, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 611; June 3, 1938, Sec. 11 (as amended by Public Law 104-65, Sec. 19); (109 Stat. 704); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Professor of Law, Members of the Committee on the Judiciary.

Sincerely,

Associate II, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting the System's final rule — Amendments to Capital Planning and Stress Testing Requirements for Large Bank Holding Companies, Intermediate Holding Companies and Savings and Loan Holding Companies; and hiking the report on the Department's final rule — Amendments to the Department of Justice's revised requirements for Community Reinvestment Act Plans; and transmitting the report on the Department's final rule — Amendments to the Department of the Treasury's final rule — Airworthiness Directives: Airbus SAS Airplanes (Docket No.: FAA-2020-1135; Project Identifier MCAI-2020-01363-T; Amendment 39-21373; AD 2020-26-18 (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 16, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-499. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives: The Boeing Company Airplanes (Docket Nos.: FAA-2020-1139; Project Identifier MCAI-2020-01363-T; Amendment 39-21373; AD 2020-26-18 (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 16, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-500. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendments to the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure.

TABLE 2.—REVISED ALLOCATION OF SPENDING AUTHORITY TO THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spend. Category</th>
<th>BA</th>
<th>OT</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021-2010</td>
<td>1,717</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Revision for consideration in the House pursuant to H. Res. 179.

H1011
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-504. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2020-0941; Product Identifier 2020-NM-097-AE21; Amendment 39-21366; AD 2020-26-11] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 16, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-505. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: FAA-2020-0783; Amdt. No.: 31346; Ms. NORTON, Ms. SCALON, Mr. MENAUER, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. SWALWELL, and Mr. SCHNEIDER): By Mr. BERA (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. TITTS, Ms. MCBATH, Mr. TONO, Mr. FOSTER, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. B. LYNCH, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. SUOZZI, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. NORTON, Ms. DEAN, Mr. GHEEHLA, Mr. V. DREW, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. VELA, Mr. TRONE, Mr. MIYAV, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mrs. BRENNER, Mr. CULBREATH, Mr. COHEN, and Mrs. WALORSKI): H.R. 1480. A bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to improve the detection of mental health issues among public safety officers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, 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.

By Mr. BEYER:

H.R. 1481. A bill to require Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies to report information related to allegations of misconduct of law enforcement officers to the Attorney General, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina (for himself, Ms. CRAIG, Mrs. KIM of California, Mr. ROSE, and Ms. CLARKSON): H.R. 1482. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to enhance the Office of Credit Risk Management, to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to issue rules relating to environmental obligations of certified development companies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. BLUMENAUER:

H.R. 1483. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the rehabilitation credit; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BLUMENAUER:

H.R. 1484. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the energy tax credit to apply to qualified distributed wind energy property; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER:

H.R. 1485. A bill to provide additional funds for Federal and State facility energy resilience programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BUDD:

H.R. 1486. A bill to repeal the Office of Financial Research, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. BURCHETT (for himself, Mr. Kim of New Jersey, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mrs. NEWTON): H.R. 1487. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to increase transparency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas (for himself, Mrs. WAGNER, Ms. TITTS, and Mr. FITZPATRICK): H.R. 1488. A bill to promote international exchanges on best election practices, cultivate more secure democratic institutions around the world, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. COHEN:

H.R. 1489. A bill to permit vicarious liability for an employer of a person who, under color of law, subjects another to the deprivation of rights, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. CRAIG (for herself, Mrs. KIM of California, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, and Mr. CHABOT):
H.R. 1490. A bill to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to improve the loan guaranty program, enhance the ability of small manufacturers to access affordable capital, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Ms. DEGETTE (for herself, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. BURCHELL, Mr. GARCIA of California, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Mr. ESPALLATA):

H.R. 1492. A bill to prevent methane waste and pollution from oil and gas operations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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.

By Ms. DINGELL (for herself and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 1494. A bill to protect victims of stalking from gun violence; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MCMURTRY:

H.R. 1495. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide coverage under the Medicaid program for services for the treatment of psychiatric or substance use disorders furnished to certain individuals in an institution for mental diseases, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. FEENSTRA (for himself, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. BROOKS, Mr. RABIN, Mr. CAWTHORN, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. GISWISI, Mr. LAMLOH, Mr. BURK, Mr. HICK of Georgia, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. HAGDRON, and Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS):

H.R. 1496. A bill to require U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement to take into custody certain aliens who have been charged in the United States with a crime that resulted in the death or serious bodily injury of another person, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. FOSTER:

H.R. 1497. A bill to amend the Expedited Funds Availability Act to require funds deposited by check from the Federal Government to be made available immediately; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. GOOD of Virginia (for himself, Ms. FOXX, Mr. BUDD, Mr. CAWTHORN, Mr. GOODMAN, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, and Mr. NORMAN):

H.R. 1498. A bill to require that local educational agencies disclose negotiations with teachers on assignments and condition for, by their choice, to receive funds under the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund of the Education Stabilization Fund of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. GOSAR (for himself, Mr. BUOSS, Mr. KIVILOHKO, and Mr. LUCAS):

H.R. 1499. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain Federal land in Arizona to La Paz County, Arizona, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. HOULAHAN (for herself, Mr. GARRARDO, Mr. GARCIA of California, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Mr. ESPALLATA):

H.R. 1500. A bill to direct the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development to submit a report on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on global basic education programs; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. BURCHELL and Mr. THOMPSON of California:

H.R. 1501. A bill to reauthorize the Neighborhood Stabilization Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. KIM of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. GARRARDO, Ms. NEWMAN, and Mr. BURCHELL):

H.R. 1502. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to optimize the operations of the committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. LEVIN of California (for himself, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. NADLER, Mr. NORTON, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. GARCIA of Illinois, Ms. LEON of California, Ms. PORTER, and Ms. BROWNLY):

H.R. 1503. A bill to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to make certain adjustments in leasing on Federal lands for oil and gas drilling, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, 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.

By Mr. LEVIN of Michigan (for himself, Ms. PRESSLEY, and Ms. OMAH):

H.R. 1504. A bill to impose sanctions with respect to the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia, Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, 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.

By Ms. PORTER (for herself, Mr. TOOMEY, and Mr. RUSH):

H.R. 1505. A bill to build a clean and prosperous future by addressing the climate crisis, protecting the health and welfare of all Americans, and putting the Nation on the path to a net-zero greenhouse gas economy by 2050, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Oversight and Reform, Education and Labor, Ways and Means, Natural Resources, Armed Services, Armed Forces, Science, Space, and Technology, Intelligence (Permanent Select), and Financial Services, 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.

By Mr. RICE:

H.R. 1506. A bill to provide for the accurate reporting of fossil fuels extraction and emissions by entities with leases on public land, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, 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.

By Mr. LEWITKEMEYER (for himself and Mr. GOLDEN):

H.R. 1507. A bill to require each agency, in providing notice of a rule making, to include a link to a 100 word plain language summary of the proposed rule; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

H.R. 1508. A bill to require a guidance clarity statement on certain agency guidance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Ms. MENG:

H.R. 1509. A bill to repeal portions of a regulation issued by the State Superintendent of Insurance to require child care workers to have a degree, a certificate, or a minimum number of credit hours from an institution of higher education; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. MCKINLEY (for himself, Mr. TRONE, Mr. MOONEY, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, Mr. RESCHENHTALER, and Mr. BOST):

H.R. 1510. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress a report on the use of cameras in medical centers of the Department of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. OMAH:

H.R. 1511. A bill to impose sanctions with respect to the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia, Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, 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.

By Mr. PALLONE (for himself, Mr. TONKO, and Mr. BUSH):

H.R. 1512. A bill to build a clean and prosperous future by addressing the climate crisis, protecting the health and welfare of all Americans, and putting the Nation on the path to a net-zero greenhouse gas economy by 2050, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Oversight and Reform, Education and Labor, Ways and Means, Natural Resources, Armed Services, Armed Forces, Science, Space, and Technology, Intelligence (Permanent Select), and Financial Services, 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.

By Mr. PERRY:

H.R. 1513. A bill to require that all Special Drawing Rights allocations be authorized in law; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. PETERS:

H.R. 1514. A bill to amend the Federal Power Act to increase energy efficiency and clean energy, reduce congestion, and increase grid resilience; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. PORTER:

H.R. 1515. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide for the treatment of payments for child care and other personal use services as an authorized campaign expenditure, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Ms. PORTER:

H.R. 1516. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit contributions and donations by foreign nationals in connection with State or local ballot initiatives or referenda; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. PORTER (for herself, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. LOWENTHAL):

H.R. 1517. A bill to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to make certain adjustments to the fiscal terms for fossil fuel development and to make other reforms to improve returns to taxpayers for the development of fossil fuel energy resources, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.
CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Ms. DEAN:
H.R. 1477. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. TAYLOR:
H.R. 1478. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution

By Ms. BARR:
H.R. 1479. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. BERA:
H.R. 1480. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. BEYER:
H.R. 1481. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina:
H.R. 1482. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8

By Mr. BLOOMENAUER:
H.R. 1483. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution

By Mr. BLOOMENAUER:
H.R. 1484. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution

By Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER:
H.R. 1485. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, clause 3

By Mr. BUDD:
H.R. 1486. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8

By Mr. BURCHETT:
H.R. 1487. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas:
H.R. 1488. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. COHEN:
H.R. 1489.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Amendment XIV, Section 1: All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the state wherein they reside. No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

Amendment XIV, Section 5: The Congress shall have power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

By Ms. CRAIG:
H.R. 1490.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

“The Congress shall have Power to . . . provide for . . . general Welfare of the United States; . . .”

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By Ms. DEGETTE:
H.R. 1491.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8.

By Ms. DeGETTE:
H.R. 1492.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8.

By Mr. DIAZ-BALART:
H.R. 1493.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. EMMER:
H.R. 1495.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. FEENSTRA:
H.R. 1496.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8 Clause 4 of the Constitution

By Mr. FOSTER:
H.R. 1497.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clauses 10 and 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. GOOD of Virginia:
H.R. 1498.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1 and 18

By Mr. GOSAR:
H.R. 1499.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 10, clause 2 which provides Congress with the power to “dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory and other Property belonging to the United States” in this case, the sale of federal land for economic development.

By Ms. HOUKAN:
H.R. 1500.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 8

By Mr. HUFFMAN:
H.R. 1501.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. KIM of New Jersey:
H.R. 1502.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. LEVIN of California:
H.R. 1503.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution.

By Mr. LOWENTHAL:
H.R. 1505.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. LEVIN of Michigan:
H.R. 1504.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 1 of the Constitution.

By Mr. LOWENTHAL:
H.R. 1506.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:
H.R. 1507.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts, and excises to pay the debts and provide for the common Defense and general welfare of the United States, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 1. Thus, Congress has the authority not only to increase taxes, but also, to reduce taxes to promote the general welfare of the United States and her citizens. Additionally, Congress has the Constitutional authority to regulate commerce among the States and with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Mrs. DINGELL:
H.R. 1508.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:
H.R. 1509.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts, and excises to pay the debts and provide for the common Defense and general welfare of the United States, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 1. Thus, Congress has the authority not only to increase taxes, but also, to reduce taxes to promote the general welfare of the United States and her citizens. Additionally, Congress has the Constitutional authority to regulate commerce among the States and with Indian Tribes, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8.

By Mr. LOWENTHAL:
H.R. 1510.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:
H.R. 1511.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts, and excises to pay the debts and provide for the common Defense and general welfare of the United States, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 1. Thus, Congress has the authority not only to increase taxes, but also, to reduce taxes to promote the general welfare of the United States and her citizens. Additionally, Congress has the Constitutional authority to regulate commerce among the States and with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8.

By Mr. LOWENTHAL:
H.R. 1512.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clauses 10 and 18

By Ms. PORTER:
H.R. 1513.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. PETERS:
H.R. 1514.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. PORTER:
H.R. 1515.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. PORTER:
H.R. 1516.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. RICE of South Carolina:
H.R. 1517.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. RICE of South Carolina:
H.R. 1518.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clauses 10 and 18

By Mr. ROY:
H.R. 1519.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. SERRANO:
H.R. 1520.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. SERRANO:
H.R. 1521.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 17

By Ms. SERRANO:
H.R. 1522.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV, Section 3, of the U.S. Constitution, which provides as follows:

New States may be admitted by the Congress into this Union; . . . The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States.
By Ms. STEFANIK: H.R. 1523. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Ms. TTUS: H.R. 1524. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clauses 3 and 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. VAN DREW: H.R. 1526. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. WITTMAN: H.R. 1527. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1, 18, and 39 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Ms. WATERS: H.R. 1529. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mrs. WAGNER: H.R. 1530. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution of the United States.

H.R. 1411: Mr. Fulcher, Mrs. Hinson, Mr. Fleischmann, Ms. Cheney, Mr. LaHood, Mr. Cole, and Mr. Bost.

H.R. 1419: Mr. Pocan.

H.R. 1437: Mr. Pallone.

H.R. 1438: Mr. Pallone.

H. Res. 47: Mr. Foster and Mr. Gallego.

H. Res. 114: Mr. Espallart, Mr. Raskin, Mr. Case, Mr. Langvin, and Ms. Porter.

H. Res. 124: Mr. Schneider and Mr. Phillips.

H. Res. 151: Mr. Sherman, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Correa, Ms. Garcia of Texas, Mr. Pressley, Mr. Vargas, Mr. Deutch, Mr. Levin of Michigan, Mr. Connolly, Ms. Kuster, Mr. Cardenas, Mr. Ruppersberger, Mr. Rush, Ms. Sanchez, Mr. San Nicolas, Ms. Lawrence, Ms.oulahan, Mr. Swalwell, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Auckchloss, Mr. Speier, Mr. Ruiz, Ms. Johnson of Texas, and Mr. Costa.

H. Res. 160: Mr. Biggs.

H. Res. 174: Mr. Swalwell, Mr. Lieu, and Mr. Levin of California.

H. Res. 175: Mr. McGovern.

H.R. 6: Mr. Deutch, Mr. Suozzi, Mr. DeFazio, Mrs. Hayes, Mr. Cicilline, Ms. Evans, Ms. Fletcher, Mr. Cicilline, Mr. Beera, Ms. Beatty, Mr. Castro of Texas, Mr. Butler, Ms. Moore of Wisconsin, Mr. Huffman, Mr. Lynch, Ms. Schakowsky, Mr. Casten, Mr. Cohen, Mr. Plumerluter, Ms. Newman, Mr. Ross, Mr. Panetta, Mr. Malinowski, Mr. Brendan F. Boyle of Pennsylvania, Mr. Owens.

H.R. 69: Mr. Golden and Mr. Joyce of Ohio.

H.R. 707: Ms. Van Duyne.

H.R. 793: Ms. Tenney and Ms. Velazquez.

H.R. 815: Mr. Neuse, Ms. Williams of Georgia, Mr. Rasen, Mr. Nadler, and Mr. McCaich.

H.R. 841: Mr. Bar and Mr. Panetta.

H.R. 842: Ms. Bourdeaux, Miss Rice of New York, and Mr. Clyburn.


H.R. 868: Mr. Van Drew.

H.R. 969: Mr. Price of North Carolina.

H.R. 1001: Mr. Van Drew.

H.R. 1099: Mr. Panetta.

H.R. 1035: Mr. Cohen and Mr. Rosendale.

H.R. 1045: Mr. Lofgren.

H.R. 1080: Mrs. Cammack.

H.R. 1112: Mr. Norton and Mr. Phillips.

H.R. 1113: Mr. Fortenberry.

H.R. 1168: Mr. Tiffany.

H.R. 1193: Mr. Duncan, Mr. Dunn, Mrs. Beatty, Ms. Degette, Mr. Vargas, and Mr. Gottheimer.

H.R. 1200: Mr. Brendan F. Boyle of Pennsylvania and Mr. Gehr.

H.R. 1210: Ms. Stefanik.

H.R. 1223: Mr. Cartwright, Mr. Khanna, and Mr. Skurich.

H.R. 1260: Mr. Fitzpatrick.

H.R. 1275: Mr. Owens.

H.R. 1276: Mr. Kaptur.

H.R. 1290: Mr. Gottheimer.

H.R. 1297: Mr. Foster.


H.R. 1346: Mr. Ferguson.

H.R. 1368: Mr. Allred, Ms. Williams of Georgia, Mr. Soto, and Ms. Blunt Rochester.

H.R. 1378: Mr. Malinski, Mr. Allred, Ms. Jayapal, Mr. Pocan, Mr. Bowman, Mr. McEachin, and Mr. Lamb.

H.R. 1379: Mr. Nadler, Ms. Pingree, Mr. Ruiz, Ms. Espallart, Ms. Titts, Mrs. Trahan, Mr. Welch, Mr. Blumenauer, Ms. Moore of Wisconsin, and Mrs. Watson Coleman.

H.R. 1381: Mr. Baird and Mr. Stivers.

H.R. 1385: Mr. Fitzpatrick.

H.R. 1389: Mr. Fitzpatrick.

H.R. 1392: Mr. McClintock, Mr. Kaeho, Ms. Norton, Ms. Titts, and Ms. Omar.


H.R. 1396: Mr. Kelly of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 1404: Mr. Scott of Virginia and Mr. Pocan.

H.R. 1417: Mr. Neguse, Mr. Espallart, Mrs. Stefanik, Mr. Neuse, Mr. Levin of Michigan, Mr. Gallego, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Raskin, Mr. Case, Mr. Langvin, and Ms. Porter.

H. Res. 47: Mr. Foster and Mr. Gallego.

H. Res. 114: Mr. Espallart, Mr. Raskin, Mr. Case, Mr. Langvin, and Ms. Porter.

H. Res. 124: Mr. Schneider and Mr. Phillips.

H. Res. 151: Mr. Sherman, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Correa, Ms. Garcia of Texas, Mr. Pressley, Mr. Vargas, Mr. Deutch, Mr. Levin of Michigan, Mr. Connolly, Ms. Kuster, Mr. Cardenas, Mr. Ruppersberger, Mr. Rush, Ms. Sanchez, Mr. San Nicolas, Ms. Lawrence, Ms.oulahan, Mr. Swalwell, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Auckchloss, Mr. Speier, Mr. Ruiz, Ms. Johnson of Texas, and Mr. Costa.

H. Res. 160: Mr. Biggs.

H. Res. 174: Mr. Swalwell, Mr. Lieu, and Mr. Levin of California.

H. Res. 175: Mr. McGovern.

By Ms.这对于自然阅读的文本表示：

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution of the United States.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clauses 3 and 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1, 18, and 39 of the Constitution of the United States.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution of the United States.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clauses 3 and 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1, 18, and 39 of the Constitution of the United States.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1, 18, and 39 of the Constitution of the United States.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1, 18, and 39 of the Constitution of the United States.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1, 18, and 39 of the Constitution of the United States.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1, 18, and 39 of the Constitution of the United States.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1, 18, and 39 of the Constitution of the United States.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1, 18, and 39 of the Constitution of the United States.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1, 18, and 39 of the Constitution of the United States.
H.R. 581: Mr. Moore of Utah.
H.R. 586: Mr. Hastings.
H.R. 593: Mr. Van Drew.
H.R. 611: Mr. Rouzer and Mrs. Lesko.
H.R. 619: Mr. Calvert and Mr. Rice of South Carolina.
H.R. 637: Mrs. Hinson.
H.R. 677: Mrs. Bick of Oklahoma, Mr. Brady, Mr. C. Scott Franklin of Florida, Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Keller, Mr. Cline, Mrs. HarshaRager, Mr. Frenstra, Mr. Carter of Georgia, Mr. Thompson of Pennsylvania, Mr. Mann, Mr. Rogers of Kentucky, Mr. Steil, Mr. Biliakus, Mr. LaMalfa, Mr. Sessions, Mr. Loudermilk, Mr. Kelly of Mississippi, Mrs. Hartler, Mr. Obernolte, Mr. Posey, Mr. Issa, Ms. Tenney, Mrs. Miller-Marks, Mr. Webster of Florida, Mr. Gravitt of Louisiana, Mr. Huizenga, Mr. Norman, Mr. Valadao, Mr. Fortenberry, and Mr. Armstrong.
H.R. 684: Mr. Davidson.
H.R. 707: Mrs. HarshaRager and Mr. Buc.
H.R. 708: Mr. Trone.
H.R. 721: Mr. Auchincloss.
H.R. 746: Mr. Ryan.
H.R. 773: Mr. Hastings.
H.R. 787: Mr. Van Drew.
H.R. 795: Mr. McCaul.
H.R. 812: Mrs. Rice of Oklahoma.
H.R. 816: Mr. Folan.
H.R. 837: Mr. Weber of Texas, Mr. Norman, Mr. Babin, Mrs. Hartler, Mr. Duncan, Mr. Adrhalten, Mr. Good of VirginiA, Mr. Massie, Mr. C. Scott Franklin of Florida, Mr. Charlot, Mr. Keller, and Mr. Cole.
H.R. 884: Mr. Cohen.
H.R. 896: Mr. Levin of Michigan, Mr. Amodei, Mr. Posey, Mr. CarrBajal, Mr. Bacon, Mr. Pallone, Ms. Schrier, and Ms. Slotkin.
H.R. 909: Mr. Van Drew.
H.R. 941: Mr. Schrader.
H.R. 956: Mr. Auchincloss.
H.R. 963: Ms. Houlihan.
H.R. 966: Mr. Torres of New York.
H.R. 991: Mr. Jackson.
H.R. 992: Mr. Biggs.
H.R. 1012: Mr. Horsford.
H.R. 1021: Mrs. Camack.
H.R. 1022: Mr. Stewart, Mr. Steube, Ms. Herrera Brituler, Mr. Valadao, and Mr. Cohen.
H.R. 1026: Mr. Van Drew.
H.R. 1028: Mr. Fallion.
H.R. 1035: Mr. Swallwell, Ms. Schrier, and Mr. Baird.
H.R. 1062: Mr. Ryan.
H.R. 1065: Mr. Mijler and Ms. Slotkin.
H.R. 1145: Mrs. Camack, Mr. Frenstra, Mr. Cloud, and Mr. Green of Texas.
H.R. 1148: Ms. Foxx.
H.R. 1149: Mr. Foxx.
H.R. 1170: Mr. Nunes.
H.R. 1173: Mrs. Hinson.
H.R. 1177: Mr. Foster, Mr. Garcia of Illinois, Mr. Higgins of New York, Mr. Huffman, Mr. Keating, Mr. Kelly of Illinois, Ms. Moore of Wisconsin, Mr. Raskin, Ms. Sewell, Mr. Larsen of Washington, Mr. Krishnamoorthi, and Mr. Brendan F. Boyle of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 1180: Mr. Pocan.
H.R. 1183: Mr. Blumenauer.
H.R. 1193: Mr. McKinley, Mr. Fleischmann, Mr. Zeldin, Mr. Morelle, Mr. Butterfield, and Mr. Gallagher.
H.R. 1195: Mr. Vargas, Ms. Houlahan, Mr. Stanton, Mr. Pocan, Ms. McCollum, Mr. Prince of North Carolina, Mr. Cicilline, Mrs. Beatty, Mr. Crist, Ms. Omar, Mr. Blumenauer, Mr. Vela, Mr. Crow, Ms. Degette, Ms. Titus, Mr. Ryan, Mr. Deutch, Ms. Craig, Mr. SouZZi, Mr. Smith of Washington, Miss Rice of New York, Ms. Garcia of Texas, Ms. Sanchez, Mr. Butterfield, Mr. Brendan F. Boyle of Pennsylvania, Mr. Norcross, Mr. CarBAjal, Mr. DeFazio, Mr. Garamendi, Mr. Schiff, Mr. Rush, Ms. DelBene, and Ms. Speier.
H.R. 1208: Mr. Malinski.
H.R. 1216: Ms. Herrell, Mr. Cloud, Mr. B曦het, Mr. Perrey, and Mr. Posey.
H.R. 1215: Mr. Bacon.
H.R. 1226: Ms. Craig.
H.R. 1247: Ms. Bass and Mr. Fitzpatrick.
H.R. 1254: Mr. Bishop of North Carolina.
H.R. 1259: Mr. Kuster.
H.R. 1268: Mr. Carson.
H.R. 1270: Ms. Omar.
H.R. 1275: Mr. Hudson.
H.R. 1276: Mr. Zeldin, Ms. Luria, and Mr. Mijler.
H.R. 1280: Mr. Crist.
H.R. 1283: Mr. CarrBajal.
H.R. 1284: Mr. McHenry and Mr. Westerman.
H.R. 1285: Mr. Fitzpatrick.
H.R. 1291: Mr. Newhouse, Mr. Guest, Mr. Balderston, Mr. Dunn, and Mr. McKinley.
H.R. 1297: Mr. Fallion and Mr. Hagedorn.
H.R. 1298: Mr. Lucas, Mrs. Rice of Oklahoma, and Mr. Cole.
H.R. 1313: Mr. Evans, Mr. Panetta, Mrs. Kirkpatrick, Ms. Houlihan, Ms. Kaptur, Mr. Cohen, Mr. Rush, Ms. Scanlon, Ms. Moore of Wisconsin, and Mr. Kuster.
H.R. 1322: Mr. Baird and Mr. LaHood.
H.R. 1323: Mr. Baird and Mr. LaHood.
H.R. 1348: Mr. Jones.
H.R. 1349: Mr. Balderson.
H.R. 1362: Mr. BisBee.
H.R. 1368: Mr. Phillips, Mr. SarBanes, Mr. Casten, Mrs. Fletcher, Mr. Doggett, Mr. Sires, Ms. Kuster, Mrs. McBath, and Mr. Malinski.
H.R. 1394: Mr. B曦her, Mr. KHanNa, Mr. Blumenauer, and Ms. Craig.
H.R. 1396: Mr. B曦her and Mr. SouZZi.
H.R. 1407: Mr. KHanNa and Ms. Slotkin.
H.R. 1442: Mr. Katzko, Mr. Crist, and Mr. Horsford.
H.R. 1448: Mr. B曦her, Ms. Brownley, Mr. Cash, Ms. Castor of Florida, Mr. Castor of Texas, Mr. DeFazio, Mr. Degette, Mr. Evans, Mr. Foster, Ms. Garcia of Texas, Mr. Himes, Mr. Horsford, Ms. Kelly of Illinois, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Pocan, Miss Rice of New York, Ms. Ross, Ms. Scanlon, Mr. Sires, Mr. SouZZi, and Mr. Yarmuth.
H.R. 1451: Mr. Plair.
H.R. 1458: Ms. VelizAquez, Ms. Sherrill, Mr. Mfume, Ms. Schakowsky, Mr. Ryan, Ms. Davids of Kansas, Ms. Tlaib, Mr. O'Halleran, and Mr. Ratkin.
H.R. 1465: Mrs. Hinson.
H.R. 1472: Mr. Gallagher.
H.R. 1476: Mr. Stivers.
H.J. Res. 3: Mr. Fulcher.
H.J. Res. 12: Ms. Tenney and Mr. Cloud.
H. Con. Res. 20: Mr. MoElinaar and Mr. Gibbs.
H. Res. 47: Ms. Foster and Mrs. McBath.
H. Res. 114: Mr. Cole, Mr. Smith of New Jersey, and Mr. Latta.
H. Res. 117: Mr. Baird.
H. Res. 118: Mr. Rice of South Carolina, Mr. Vargas, Mr. Fallion, Mr. Garbarino, Mrs. Axne, Mr. Williams of Texas, Ms. Salazar, Mr. Smith of Nebraska, Mr. CarL, Mr. Green of Texas, and Mr. Baird.
H. Res. 119: Mr. Thompson of California, Ms. Castor of Florida, Mr. Nadler, and Mr. Bost.
H. Res. 159: Mr. Cole and Mrs. Lesko.
H. Res. 160: Mr. Baird.
H. Res. 174: Ms. Chuc.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

OFFERED BY MR. SCHIFF

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on March 1, 2021 in H.R. 1 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 or rule XXI.
The Senate met at 7:09 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JOHN W. HICKENLOOPER, a Senator from the State of Colorado.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
To the Senate:  
Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN W. HICKENLOOPER, a Senator from the State of Colorado, to perform the duties of the Chair.  

PATRICK J. LEAHY,  
President pro tempore.

Mr. HICKENLOOPER thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 2021

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate be in a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—H.R. 5 and H.R. 1319

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I understand that there are two bills at the desk due for a second reading en bloc.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will read the bills by titles for the second time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5) to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, gender identity, and sexual orientation, and for other purposes.

A bill (H.R. 1319) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of S. Con. Res. 5.

Mr. SCHUMER. In order to place the bills on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to further proceedings en bloc.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection having been heard, the bills will be placed on the calendar.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3, 2021

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 12 noon on Wednesday, March 3; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL TOMORROW

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:11 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, March 3, 2021, at 12 noon.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 5. An act to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, gender identity, and sexual orientation, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1319. An act to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of S. Con. Res. 5.
Ambitious woman of God, Pastor Lora Miles. Pastor Miles has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication and a desire to teach the word of God.

Recently, Pastor Miles was recognized by the Yazoo County Regional Facility Chaplaincy’s Department as its first African American female prison minister.

Pastor Miles is a native of Elizabeth, Mississippi, and currently serves as the Pastor of the Everlasting Love Ministry in Leland, MS. She has been involved in ministry work for nearly 30 years. It was after the passing of her son in 2014 that she hit the ground running in prison ministry—a safe haven to encourage her heart. She started her prison ministry at the Washington County Correctional Facility of Greenville, where she gives messages of hope and faith to hundreds of female inmates.

In 2019, Pastor Miles decided to expand her prison ministry to Yazoo County, where she now serves as the first female to minister at the Yazoo County Regional Correctional Facility, an all-male state facility.

Through her services in Yazoo County, inmates continue to receive Christ and inspirations through her messages of love. On Friday nights, at the Yazoo County Regional Correctional Facility, there are not enough chairs to accommodate all the men who are eager to attend the church services led by Pastor Miles. She is making a significant impact at the facility, and the lives of many men are being transformed.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Pastor Lora Miles for her dedication to serving others and giving back to her community.

IN RECOGNITION OF GREGORY J. WASHINGTON ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. STEVE SCALISE
OF LOUISIANA

Tuesday, March 2, 2021

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to extend my personal congratulations and best wishes to Mr. Gregory J. Washington, a New Orleans native, on the occasion of his retirement this year.

Greg began his forty-year career in the energy sector as a “roughneck” in the fields of south Louisiana during his high school summer breaks. For those of us who know Greg, it seems obvious that he would find success in the industry that offered him his first job. After graduating from Southern Methodist University in 1978, Greg started with Texaco as a “landman” in New Orleans and went on to become the State Mineral Board Representative from 1986 to 1990. Greg was later promoted to be Texaco’s Senior Public and Government Affairs Representative for Louisiana and was eventually asked to transfer to Washington, D.C., for what he thought would be a short-term assignment. After many years with the Texaco and Chevron Washington offices, Greg has decided to hang up his hard hat for good and enter retirement.

Throughout his career, Greg has shown his strong Louisiana work ethic and his “come early, stay late” attitude. He has always been eager to share his love of Louisiana and our culture with everyone he meets. He has continued to approach his work with an enthusiastic and positive outlook. As a result, he is well known and well liked, and his decision to retire certainly leaves a void that will be hard to fill. I know all his friends and colleagues will miss him dearly.

Greg and Cassandra, his lovely wife of 40 years, are looking forward to spending more time together in their well-earned retirement. I expect that this will surely include more time in his hometown of New Orleans.

I wish Greg and Cassandra all the best.
central role local libraries play in connecting constituents across our entire country to its collection. In my own state, NLS and the Illinois State Library Talking Book and Braille Service provide service to nearly 10,000 individuals and institutions in Illinois. This includes more than 1,000 individual patrons and institutions in my district.

Madam Speaker, the National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled is one of those magical programs that exemplify the good our government can do for all Americans, especially for our sisters and brothers with disabilities. Today, I give them my congratulations on their 90th anniversary, my appreciation of their commitment to access and literacy, and my thanks for all they do.

HONORING ADAM POLITZER

HON. JARED HUFFMAN
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, March 2, 2021

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Adam Politzer upon his retirement from a distinguished 20 year career in service to the City of Sausalito.

Adam was born and raised in Sausalito, and he graduated from Tamalpais High School. His career in local government began in 1987 as a recreation manager in Palo Alto. He later joined the City of Sausalito in 2000 as a parks and recreation director and quickly moved up the ranks to become the City’s chief administrator. Upon his retirement Adam was the longest serving City Manager for Sausalito.

During his tenure with the City Adam produced substantial improvements to the quality of life for the City’s residents and visitors. Among his numerous achievements, Adam successfully led efforts to revitalize Robin Sweeper Park, Dunphy Park, Martin Luther King Jr. Park, and Southview Park; oversaw the consolidation of the Sausalito Fire Department with the Southern Marin Fire District; and managed development projects for new public safety buildings. Adam was also valued by the city council and staff for his skilled stewardship of taxpayer dollars and helping the City maintain financial stability throughout economic challenges including the COVID-19 pandemic.

Over the years Adam became a strong mentor for the next generation of municipal leaders, launching the Southern Marin Management Academy to help train aspiring public servants, Adam is well-known by Sausalito and Marin County residents, business owners, and colleagues for his thoughtful leadership and willingness to thoroughly explore and pursue the best solutions to complex problems.

Adam’s commitment to the community of Sausalito has been, and will continue to be, productive and enduring. Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask that you join me in expressing gratitude to Adam for his extensive public service and extending to him congratulations on his retirement and best wishes on his next endeavors.

REMEMBERING BONNIE L. PITTMAN

HON. TIM RYAN
OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, March 2, 2021

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Bonnie L. Pittman, of Ravenna, Ohio, who passed away on February 16, 2021 at the age of 82.

Bonnie was born January 2, 1939, in Gassville, Arkansas, to parents Floyd and Florence (McFarlan) Chambers. She married the love of her life, John, on February 15, 1958.

Mrs. Pittman managed Tucaway Lake Campground with John, where she touched many lives and hearts. Bonnie was a member of the First Christian Church and enjoyed traveling. Most of all, she was a people person who loved her family and friends.

Bonnie is survived by her husband, John, as well as her children Sue (Patrick) Pittman, Laurie J. Pittman, Jamie (Keith) Fletcher, John (Vicki) Pittman Jr., Roger (Gail) Pittman, her five grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, her sisters Blanche Hart and Betty Bell, her sister-in-law Jill Chambers, along with many nieces, nephews, and countless friends who she considered family. She was preceded in death by her parents and her brother Floyd “Butch” Chambers, Jr.

I am proud to be friends with Bonnie’s daughter, Judge Laurie Pittman. My deepest condolences go out to Judge Pittman, Bonnie’s entire family, and to all whose lives she touched.

RECOGNIZING LINDA EIDINGER AND HER SERVICE TO THE FORT LAUDERDALE COMMUNITY

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH
OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, March 2, 2021

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Linda Eidinger for her years of dedicated service to the South Florida community. After twenty years as a union officer in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Linda moved to South Florida where she has lived a life of community service and activism. Linda is a proud mother and grandmother, and her roots in union work inspired her to continue to fight on behalf of working families everywhere.

As president and an active member of many civic organizations, Linda engaged her community and brought people together to advance noble causes. As a leader in the American Association of University Women and the Organization for Rehabilitation through Training, Linda was a strong believer in the power of education and worked to ensure that everyone has access to an education to enable them to succeed in life.

Linda was also president of the Fort Lauderdale Democrats By The Sea Club where she fought for working families and other causes while making simple meetings enjoyable and memorable. Linda was an excellent moderator and brought a wide range of thoughtful speakers to various events and meetings. Environmental stewardship is also an important cause to Linda, who participated in and organized events such as recycling drives, beach cleanups, and other activities to protect the local environment.

Linda has been a selfless, dedicated, and positive member of her family and her community, fighting for important causes like education, environmental protection, and so many others.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Linda Eidinger, and her service to Fort Lauderdale and Florida’s 22nd Congressional District.
after the insurrection and the new attack on our Capitol Building on January 6, 2021. We know that white nationalism has formed and been emboldened by former President Trump. We need to make sure that we defeat it for good.

On behalf of California’s 13th Congressional District, I want to extend my sincere congratulations on this important milestone of 25 years of the Respect Yourself Youth Symposium and 36 years of service. I thank the Alameda Contra Costa Chapter of the Links for dedication to excellence and to our community. I wish them continued success in working to better the lives of the children and women of color of California’s 13th Congressional District.

INTRODUCTION OF THE RURAL WIND ENERGY MODERNIZATION AND EXTENSION ACT OF 2021

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today I introduced the Rural Wind Energy Modernization and Extension Act of 2021. This commonsense proposal builds on the success of the small wind investment tax credit by assisting farmers, ranchers, and small businesses in offsetting the up-front costs of developing and owning distributed wind turbines. Small wind turbines are commonly installed on residential, agricultural, commercial, industrial, and community sites and can range in size from a few-hundred-watt turbine to a five-megawatt turbine at a manufacturing facility. These systems allow farmers, ranchers, and other consumers to cut their energy bills and, at times, sell power back into the grid.

While this technology has grown in the past decade, federal policy to promote deployment of distributed wind power has failed to keep up. Current law has constrained nameplate capacity in distributed wind projects and years of short-term extensions have created a significant amount of uncertainty in the distributed wind market. The Rural Wind Energy Modernization and Extension Act would increase the existing 100-kilowatt limitation to 10 megawatts and provide long-term certainty for distributed wind projects for decades to come.

I look forward to working with my colleagues in the House and Senate to include this legislation in an infrastructure investment package.
HAPPY 90TH ANNIVERSARY TO THE NATIONAL LIBRARY SERVICE FOR THE BLIND AND PRINT DISABLED

HON. ZOE LOFgren
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, March 2, 2021

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the 90th anniversary of the National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (“NLS”). Established by a 1931 Act of Congress, the NLS administers a free national library program that provides braille and recorded materials to people who cannot see or handle traditional print materials through a national network of cooperating libraries. Since its establishment, the NLS has remained a leading force in the national effort to increase the access of those with low vision, blindness, or other print disabilities to reading materials and a shining example for similar programs around the world.

Initially established as a program to serve only blind adults, the NLS was expanded in 1952 to include children, in 1966 to include individuals with other physical disabilities that prevent reading traditional print materials, and in 2016 to permit NLS to provide refreshable braille displays. Under a special provision of the U.S. Copyright Law, and with the permission of authors and publishers of works not covered by that provision, NLS selects books and magazines for full-length publication in braille, e-braille, and digital audio format. These materials (along with free playback equipment needed to ready audiobooks and braille displays) are circulated to patrons within the United States and its territories and to American citizens living abroad. The program continues to expand in both its reach and capabilities, now allowing for instantly downloadable digital audio and e-braille materials via the NLS mobile applications and allowing patrons to request accessible materials in a wide range of languages from libraries around the world.

The banner atop the NLS webpage announces the service’s noble mission: “That All May Read.” Over the past 90 years, the NLS, which updated its name from the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped in 1993, has been steadfast in its efforts to accomplish this mission, ensuring that no person be denied the joy of literature and reading because of blindness or disability. The impact of the NLS over the past 90 years has been vast and far-reaching and I look forward to witnessing what the NLS will accomplish with another 90 years. On behalf of all of us in this House, congratulations to the National Library Service and to those who work tirelessly to make the NLS’s outstanding mission a reality. Many thanks for all their good work.

HON. STEVE SCALISE
OF LOUISIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, March 2, 2021

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of New Orleans restaurateur Barbara Anselmo Chifici who passed away on January 23, 2021. She is survived by her seven children, twelve grandchildren, and two brothers.

Barbara reached national recognition throughout her successful career in the culinary industry. For more than 30 years, she owned Deanie’s Seafood restaurants, which she operated with her late husband Frank Chifici. Known for their overflowing seafood platters, Deanie’s restaurants became a New Orleans staple and were featured on numerous local and national news programs. Barbara was also known for giving back to her community. From creating a crawfish and music festival that benefited local charities and serving as president of a local philanthropic organization to her numerous positions in the St. Mary Magdalen Mothers’ Club and the Archbishop Rummel High School Parents’ Club, Barbara played an invaluable role in our community. She will be deeply missed and her impact in Louisiana will be felt for many years.

I offer my sincerest condolences to her family, and I know her legacy will undoubtedly live on in our community.

RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL THESPIAN TRouPE 7742 COLLECTS FOOD FOR COMMUNITY FOOD BANK

HON. TOM MALINOWSKI
OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, March 2, 2021

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Ridge High School Thespian Troupe 7742.

As part of New Jersey Thespians’ Trick or Treat so Kids Can Eat program, Troupe 7742 collected close to 170 pounds of food for the Somerset County Food Bank. Their donation efforts came at a critical time for many New Jerseyans who are utilizing community food banks now more than ever before.

Ridge High School Thespian Troupe 7742 is comprised of students who not only excel in the arts, but who also strive to make a difference in their own neighborhood. Their contributions here demonstrate just that. Thank you to Troupe 7742 for the work they do to enrich and give back to the Somerset County community.

HONORING THE LATE FATHER JASSO

HON. MARC A. VEASEY
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, March 2, 2021

Mr. VEASEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the legacy of a pillar of our Fort Worth community—Father Jasso. Father Stephen Jasso was a Man of God who used his position to advocate for the city’s poor and powerless even during his last years when he fought a debilitating disease.

Father Jasso served the North Side Catholic parish of All Saints in Fort Worth faithfully and tirelessly for 23 years before his retirement in 2018. Born in Waco, Texas, Father Jasso was one of several children born to the late Domingo and Leonor Jasso, who came to Texas from Mexico. Before entering the Franciscan order in 1957, he served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War, earning the rank of sergeant first class.

After completing his seminary studies in Malorca, Spain, and Rome, Italy, he was ordained a Catholic priest in 1965. During his early years in the priesthood, he traveled to Peru where he spent four years as a missionary. His next assignment took Father Jasso to Mexico where he spent 24 years serving parishes.

In 1994, at 62 years old, he was named pastor of All Saints Catholic Church in Fort Worth in 1994, where he also served on many local boards and commissions, including the United Way board and the Task Force on Racism. During this lifetime, Father Jasso also served as a vigilant advocate for immigrants and the disenfranchised in our North Texas community.

Let us live up to Father Jasso’s legacy and ensure we spend every day living a selfless life devoted to those less fortunate.

HONORING MRS. PATRICIA JOHNSON LOVE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON
OF MISSISSIPPI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, March 2, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a businesswoman and community leader, Mrs. Patricia Johnson Love.

Patricia Dale Johnson Love graced the earth in September of 1969. She is the third youngest of many siblings. She was born to the late Lucious and Jessie Mae Johnson. On a gloomy day, while she was only 3 years old, in March of 1972, the youngest of the siblings was born. After her mother gave birth to her little sister, she hemorrhaged and transitioned.

Ten years later, when she was only 13 years old, her father passed away. Although Love was too young to understand, life for her was about to be a challenge.

She spent her childhood in different homes. Not all of them were good, but she and her siblings made the best of them. She would often think about the mile walk to the well to carry water, with no shoes on, on a rock road. She and her siblings trusted God every step of the way.

Love graduated from Quitman County High School in 1987. She attended Northwest Community College and graduated with an associate degree in Basic Computer Programming. While at Northwest, she made her money by fixing young ladies’ hair in the dormitory. After a year of employment, she decided to save her money and attend Cosmetology school.

Love began her career as a licensed cosmetologist in 1993 at Lewis Beauty Salon in Marks, Mississippi. In 2002, she stepped out on faith and opened her own salon. She wanted to give new stylists a place to start their career. Her favorite clients were the elderly. She would pick up those who needed a ride and take them home. She never gave it a thought because their children would be at work. Sometimes, she would even have to take them to the grocery store or the post office before driving them home.

In 1994 during the ice storm, God gave her a gift. She named her gift, Altevra Rashun
Jackson. Love became a single parent when her child was only four years old. During this time, she became ill. For three years, she suffered with Crohn’s disease. She kept the faith and prayed that God will let her raise her child. After surgery in 1999, she was healed.

In 2013, she married Donnie Ray Love. Donnie was also a businessman, who inspired her to pursue other avenues. Together, they have 4 children.

After her daughter graduated from high school, she was hesitant on completing college. Love knew her daughter’s capabilities, and she knew she had become distracted. She challenged her to a bachelor’s degree.

She attended Mississippi Valley State University and asked her daughter to attend. She knew that she had bitten off a bit much, but there was no turning back. The bond between the two grew even more, as they traveled to school together at night.

In 2017, she graduated with a bachelor’s degree in Business Administration and a concentration in Occupational Management. She wanted a mother and daughter graduation, but her daughter was not quite ready. She finished the next year in 2018.

Love’s professors thought it would be great for her to pursue a master’s degree. She knew it would be difficult, but not impossible. In 2019 she received her master’s degree in Business Administration, with honors.

Patricia understands the full phrase of “it takes a village to raise a child.” She sees guiding children as a community effort. She loves children and wishes she could save them all. Therefore, she enjoys spending her spare time volunteering and tutoring at the Village in Marks, Mississippi.

Love is the owner and operator of PJs Salon for 21 years and has served 28 years in the business.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Patricia Johnson Love for her dedication in serving her community.
Tuesday, March 2, 2021

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS
Senate confirmed the nomination of Gina Marie Raimondo, of Rhode Island, to be Secretary of Commerce.

Senate

Chamber Action
(Legislative Day of Monday, March 1, 2021)
Routine Proceedings, pages S965–S996
Legislative Day of Monday, March 1, 2021:
Measures Introduced: Thirty-five bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 518–552, and S. Res. 86. Pages S992–93
Motion To Adjourn: Senate agreed to the motion to adjourn until 7:09 p.m., on Tuesday, March 2, 2021. Page S996
Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:
- By 84 yeas to 15 nays (Vote No. EX. 70), Gina Marie Raimondo, of Rhode Island, to be Secretary of Commerce. Pages S967–74, S996
- By 95 yeas to 4 nays (Vote No. EX. 72), Cecilia Elena Rouse, of New Jersey, to be Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers. Pages S975–86, S996
During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:
- By 94 yeas to 5 nays (Vote No. EX. 71), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. Pages S974–75

On the Legislative Day of Tuesday, March 2, 2021:
Measures Placed on the Calendar: Pages S997
Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—72) Pages S974–75, S986
Adjournment: Senate convened at 10:30 a.m. and adjourned at 7:07 p.m., to then reconvene at 7:09 p.m. on the same day and adjourned at 7:11 p.m., until 12 p.m. on Wednesday, March 3, 2021. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S997.)

Committee Meetings
(Committees not listed did not meet)
BUSINESS MEETING
Committee on Armed Services: Committee announced the following subcommittee assignments for the 117th Congress:
- Subcommittee on Airland: Senators Duckworth (Chair), King, Peters, Manchin, Kelly, Rosen, Cotton, Wicker, Tillis, Sullivan, Scott (FL), and Hawley.
- Subcommittee on Cybersecurity: Senators Manchin (Chair), Gillibrand, Blumenthal, Rosen, Rounds, Wicker, Ernst, and Blackburn.
- Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities: Senators Kelly (Chair), Shaheen, Kaine, Warren, Peters, Gillibrand, Ernst, Fischer, Cramer, Scott (FL), Blackburn, Tuberville.
- Subcommittee on Personnel: Senators Gillibrand (Chair), Hirono, Warren, Tillis, Hawley, and Tuberville.
- Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support: Senators Kaine (Chair), Shaheen, Blumenthal, Hirono, Duckworth, Sullivan, Fischer, Rounds, Ernst, and Blackburn.
- Subcommittee on Seapower: Senators Hirono, Shaheen, Blumenthal, King, Kaine, Peters, Cramer, Wicker, Cotton, Tillis, Scott (FL), and Hawley.

Senators Reed and Inhofe are ex officio members of each subcommittee.

GLOBAL SECURITY CHALLENGES AND STRATEGY

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine global security challenges and strategy, after receiving testimony from Thomas Wright, The Brookings Institution, and Lieutenant General H.R. McMaster, USA (Ret.), former United States National Security Advisor, Stanford University Hoover Institution, both of Washington, D.C.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Gary Gensler, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission, who was introduced by Senators Cardin and Van Hollen, and Rohit Chopra, of the District of Columbia, to be Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, who was introduced by Senator Blumenthal, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

NOMINATION

Committee on the Budget: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Shalanda D. Young, of Louisiana, to be Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Leahy, testified and answered questions in her own behalf.

GAO’S 2021 HIGH RISK LIST

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Government Accountability Office’s 2021 High Risk List, focusing on addressing waste, fraud, and abuse, after receiving testimony from Eugene L. Dodaro, Comptroller General of the United States, J. Christopher Mihm, Managing Director, Strategic Issues, Mark Gaffigan, Managing Director, Natural Resources and Environment, Nikki Clowers, Managing Director, Health Care, Nick Marinos, Director, Information Technology and Cybersecurity, and David Trimble, Managing Director, Physical Infrastructure, all of the Government Accountability Office.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee announced the following subcommittee assignments for the 117th Congress:

Subcommittee on Primary Health and Retirement Security: Senators Sanders, Casey, Baldwin, Murphy, Kaine, Hassan, Rosen, Luján, Collins, Paul, Murkowski, Marshall, Scott (SC), Moran, Cassidy, and Braun.

Subcommittee on Employment and Workplace Safety: Senators Hickenlooper (Chair), Baldwin, Smith, Rosen, Luján, Braun, Tuberville, Paul, Scott (SC), and Romney.

Subcommittee on Children and Families: Senators Casey (Chair), Sanders, Murphy, Kaine, Hassan, Smith, Hickenlooper, Cassidy, Romney, Collins, Murkowski, Moran, Marshall, and Tuberville.

Senators Murray and Burr are ex officio members of each subcommittee.

FBI OVERSIGHT

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Bureau of Investigation, focusing on the January 6, 2021 insurrection, domestic terrorism, and other threats, after receiving testimony from Christopher A. Wray, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice.

Also, Committee announced the following subcommittee assignments for the 117th Congress:

Subcommittee on Competition Policy, Antitrust, and Consumer Rights: Senators Klobuchar (Chair), Leahy, Blumenthal, Booker, Ossoff, Lee, Hawley, Cotton, Tillis, and Blackburn.

Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, and Border Safety: Senators Padilla (Chair), Feinstein, Klobuchar, Coons, Blumenthal, Hirono, Booker, Cornyn, Graham, Cruz, Cotton, Kennedy, Tillis, and Blackburn.

Subcommittee on the Constitution: Senators Blumenthal (Chair), Feinstein, Whitehouse, Ossoff, Cruz, Cornyn, Lee, and Sasse.

Subcommittee on Criminal Justice and Counterterrorism: Senators Booker (Chair), Leahy, Feinstein, Whitehouse, Klobuchar, Padilla, Ossoff, Cotton, Graham, Cornyn, Lee, Cruz, Hawley, and Kennedy.

Subcommittee on Intellectual Property: Senators Leahy (Chair), Coons, Hirono, Padilla, Tillis, Cornyn, Cotton, and Blackburn.


Subcommittee on Privacy, Technology, and the Law: Senators Coons (Chair), Whitehouse, Klobuchar, Hirono, Ossoff, Sasse, Graham, Hawley, Kennedy, and Blackburn.
BUSINESS MEETING

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of William Joseph Burns, of Maryland, to be Director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 55 public bills, H.R. 1477–1531; and 3 resolutions, H. Res. 182–184, were introduced.

Additional Cosponsors: Pages H1012–14

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Crow to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Recess: The House recessed at 2:10 p.m. and reconvened at 5:59 p.m.

For the People Act of 2021: The House considered H.R. 1, to expand Americans’ access to the ballot box, reduce the influence of big money in politics, strengthen ethics rules for public servants, and implement other anti-corruption measures for the purpose of fortifying our democracy. Consideration is expected to resume tomorrow, March 3rd.

Pursuant to the Rule, the amendment printed in part A of H. Rept. 117–9 shall be considered as adopted.

Agreed to:

Lofgren en bloc amendment No. 2 consisting of the following amendments printed in part B of H. Rept. 117–9: Armstrong (No. 6) that exempts any state that does not utilize voter registration on enactment date of this Act and continuously thereafter from complying with voter registration requirements in the Act; Burgess (No. 12) that requires a report to Congress on the impact of wide-spread mail-in voting on the suffrage of active duty military servicemembers, how quickly their votes are counted, and whether high volumes of mail-in votes makes it harder for those individuals to vote; Burgess (No. 13) that requires a report to Congress on the data collection practices, the required necessary security resources, and the impact of a potential data breach of local, state, or federal online voter registration systems; Comer (No. 18) that adds provisions requiring the disclosure to Congress of ethics waivers granted to executive branch officials; requiring presidential transition team members to disclose positions they held outside the federal government for the previous year, including paid and unpaid positions; and a provision barring presidential transition team members from working on transition activities who do not disclose information required in the transition “ethics plan”, all of which were included in H.R. 1 as introduced in the 116th Congress; and Schweikert (No. 39) that directs the Election Assistance Commission to conduct a study regarding the use of blockchain technology to enhance voter security in Federal elections; Pages H997–99

Lofgren en bloc amendment No. 1 consisting of the following amendments printed in part B of H. Rept. 117–9: Scanlon (No. 1) that expands state requirements for early voting locations to include college campuses; Adams (No. 2) that requires that, in order to be eligible for funds under the program for institutions of higher education demonstrating excellence in voter registration, institutions must have engaged in initiatives to facilitate the enfranchisement of groups of individuals that have historically faced barriers to voting; Adams (No. 3) that requires school districts to describe how they will prioritize access to initiatives for schools serving their most vulnerable students when applying for funds under the “Pilot Program for Providing Voter Registration Information to Secondary School Students”; Adams (No. 4) that requires an appropriations set-aside for minority-serving institutions (MSIs) under the grant program for institutions of higher education demonstrating excellence in voter registration; Adams (No. 5) that inserts a provision requiring the US Postal Service to sweep its facilities and post offices daily to ensure that ballots are expeditiously transmitted to local election officials; Auchincloss (No. 7) that expands the requirements for states to receive grants for poll worker recruitment and training to ensure the state includes dedicated poll worker recruitment for youth and minors, including by recruiting at institutions of higher education and secondary education; Auchincloss (No. 8) that adds “age” to the list of bases upon which voter challenges by persons other than election officials will be
presumed as lacking a good faith factual basis; Bourdeaux (No. 9) that protects the ability of third parties to provide an application for an absentee ballot; ensures that election officials can send voter registration applications unsolicited; ensures that the number of drop boxes and geographical distribution of drop boxes provide a reasonable opportunity for voters to submit their ballot; permits for the security of drop boxes through remote or electronic surveillance; Boyle (PA) (No. 10) that allows for voter education information at naturalization ceremonies for newly sworn in citizens; Brown (No. 11) that requires states to include an option for an absentee ballot in the next and subsequent federal elections on a voter registration application form as part of registering for a State motor vehicle driver’s license; Bush (No. 15) that expands accessibility requirements for ballot drop box locations to ensure unhoused communities can participate in federal elections; Case (No. 16) that directs the Election Assistance Commission to conduct a study on the 2020 elections and compile a list of recommendations to help states administer vote-by-mail elections; Castron (FL) (No. 17) that adds campaign fund disbursement requirements for former candidates registering as an agent under the Foreign Agents Registration Act; DeSaulnier (No. 20) that adds the Bots Research Act to the bill, which requires the EAC to establish a task force to study and report on the impact of automated accounts, known as “bots,” on social media, public discourse, and elections; and Escobar (No. 21) that exempts cybersecurity assistance, including assistance in responding to threats or harassment online, from limits on coordinated political party expenditures (by a yea-and-nay vote of 218 yeas to 210 nays, Roll No. 52); and

Loftgren en bloc amendment No. 5 consisting of the following amendments printed in part B of H. Rept. 117–9: Gallego (No. 22) that improves voting access for individuals with disabilities in the four corners region of AZ, NM, CO, and UT by making a technical fix to the Protection and Advocacy for Voting Access (PAVA) program to include all 57 Protection and Advocacy Systems as eligible funding recipients; Grijalva (No. 23) that requires each State to submit to the Election Assistance Commission and Congress a report that includes the number of individuals who were purged from the official voter registration list or moved to inactive status, broken down by the reason for those actions, including the method used for identifying those voters; Grijalva (No. 24) that ensures that posting of notices at polling locations take into consideration factors including the linguistic preferences of voters in the jurisdiction; Langevin (No. 25) that implements a recommendation of the Cyberspace Solarium Commission to ensure the security of our elections and resilience of our democracy by creating the position of Senior Cyber Policy Advisor at the Election Assistance Commission (EAC) and specifying that the duties of the EAC include the development, maintenance and dissemination of cybersecurity guidelines; Lawrence (No. 26) that prevents the United States Postal Service from enacting any new operational change that slows the delivery of voting materials in the 120-day period before an election; Lawrence (No. 27) that requires the United States Postal Service to appoint Election Mail Coordinators to assist election officials with any voting material questions; Levin (MI) (No. 29) that amends Sec. 8042 (requiring disclosures of political donations and fundraising by certain Senate-confirmed nominees and other senior appointees) to add “chiefs of mission,” as defined by the Foreign Service Act of 1980, to the list of covered individuals; Luria (No. 30) that prohibits taxpayer funds from being added into Freedom From Influence fund; Manning (No. 31) that directs the Election Assistance Commission (EAC) and the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to submit a joint study to Congress of how to best enforce the fair and equitable waiting times standards set forth in Sec. 1906 of H.R. 1; requires that no individual waits longer than 30 minutes to cast a ballot at a polling place; Phillips (No. 32) that requires state election officials to undertake accessible public education campaigns to inform voters of any changes to election processes made in response to public emergencies; Plaskett (No. 33) that amends the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to equitably include territories of the United States; Plaskett (No. 34) that applies federal voter protection laws to territories of the United States; Plaskett (No. 35) that permits each of the territories of the United States to provide and furnish statues honoring their United States citizen residents for placement in Statuary Hall in the same manner as statues honoring United States citizen residents of the several States are provided for in Statuary Hall; Plaskett (No. 36) that includes territories of the United States in the Automatic Voter Registration Act of 2021 in the same manner as the 50 States and the District of Columbia; and Schneider (No. 38) that requires disclosure of donations of $5,000 or more to political committees, including super PACs, made 20 days or less before an election in order to ensure transparency of contributions not likely to be disclosed through regular reporting requirements before an election (by a yea-and-nay vote of 221 yeas to 207 nays, Roll No. 55).
Rejected:

Bush amendment (No. 14 printed in part B of H. Rept. 117–9) that sought to clarify that felony convictions do not bar any eligible individual from voting in federal elections, including individuals who are currently incarcerated (by a yea-and-nay vote of 97 yeas to 328 nays, Roll No. 53); and

Rodney Davis (IL) amendment (No. 19 printed in part B of H. Rept. 117–9) that sought to strike Subtitle C of Title III “Enhancing Protections for United States Democratic Institutions” creating a ‘national strategy’ to protect US democratic institutions by establishing a national commission (by a yea-and-nay vote of 207 yeas to 218 nays, Roll No. 54).

H. Res. 179, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 1) and (H.R. 1280) was agreed to yesterday, March 1st.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Four yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1001–02, H1002, H1009–10, and H1010.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Committee Meetings

HEALTH AND SAFETY PROTECTIONS FOR MEATPACKING, POULTRY, AND AGRICULTURAL WORKERS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies held a hearing entitled “Health and Safety Protections for Meatpacking, Poultry, and Agricultural Workers”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

APPROPRIATIONS—OPEN WORLD

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch held a budget hearing on Open World. Testimony was heard from Jane Sargus, Executive Director, Open World Leadership Center.

U.S. MILITARY SERVICE ACADEMIES OVERVIEW

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held a hearing entitled “U.S. Military Service Academies Overview”. Testimony was heard from Vice Admiral Sean Buck, Superintendent, U.S. Naval Academy; Lieutenant General Richard M. Clark, Superintendent, U.S. Air Force Academy; and Lieutenant General Darryl A. Williams, Superintendent, U.S. Military Academy West Point.

APPROPRIATIONS—CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch held a budget hearing on the Congressional Budget Office. Testimony was heard from Philip Swagel, Director, Congressional Budget Office.

THE FUTURE OF TELEHEALTH: HOW COVID–19 IS CHANGING THE DELIVERY OF VIRTUAL CARE

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “The Future of Telehealth: How COVID–19 is Changing the Delivery of Virtual Care”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

ELECTIONS IN AFRICA

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, and Global Human Rights held a hearing entitled “Elections in Africa”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

THE 2021 GAO HIGH-RISK LIST: BLUEPRINT FOR A SAFER, STRONGER, MORE EFFECTIVE AMERICA

Committee on Oversight and Reform: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The 2021 GAO High-Risk List: Blueprint for a Safer, Stronger, More Effective America”. Testimony was heard from Gene L. Dodaro, Comptroller General of the United States, Government Accountability Office.

COVID–19’S EFFECTS ON U.S. AVIATION AND THE FLIGHT PATH TO RECOVERY

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Aviation held a hearing entitled “COVID–19’s Effects on U.S. Aviation and the Flight Path to Recovery”. Testimony was heard from Heather Krause, Director, Physical Infrastructure, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3, 2021

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Polly Ellen Trottenberg, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary of Transportation, 10 a.m., SR–253.
Committee on Environment and Public Works: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Brenda Mallory, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Council on Environmental Quality, and Janet Garvin McCabe, of Indiana, to be Deputy Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, 10 a.m., SD–562.

Committee on Finance: business meeting to consider the nominations of Xavier Becerra, of California, to be Secretary of Health and Human Services, Katherine C. Tai, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador, and Adewale O. Adeyemo, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of the Treasury, 10 a.m., SH–216.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Wendy Ruth Sherman, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary, and Brian P. McKeon, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Secretary for Management and Resources, both of the Department of State, 10 a.m., SD–106/VTC.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: with the Committee on Rules and Administration, to hold a joint hearing to examine the January 6, 2021 attack on the Capitol, 10 a.m., SD–G50/WEBEX.

Committee on Rules and Administration: with the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, to hold a joint hearing to examine the January 6, 2021 attack on the Capitol, 10 a.m., SD–G50/WEBEX.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: to hold hearings with the House Committee on Veterans’ Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of veterans services organizations, 10 a.m., WEBEX.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, budget hearing on the U.S. Capitol Police, 10 a.m., Webex.

Subcommittee on Legislative Branch budget hearing on the Library of Congress, 12 p.m., Webex.


Joint Meetings

Joint Hearing: Senate Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, to hold hearings with the House Committee on Veterans’ Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of veterans services organizations, 10 a.m., WEBEX.
Next Meeting of the SENATE
12 p.m., Wednesday, March 3

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will be in a period of morning business.
Senate expects to consider the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 1319, American Rescue Plan Act.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
9 a.m., Wednesday, March 3

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Complete consideration of H.R. 1—For the People Act of 2021.

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