

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 71

To reduce the Official Mail Allowance of Members of the House and to prohibit certain other mailing practices, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 5, 1995

Mr. GOSS (for himself, Mr. BLUTE, Mr. BOEHNER, Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ROBERTS, and Mr. HORN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee House Oversight, and in addition to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To reduce the Official Mail Allowance of Members of the House and to prohibit certain other mailing practices, and for other purposes.

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

3 **SECTION 1. REDUCTION IN OFFICIAL MAIL ALLOWANCE.**

4 Section 311(e)(2)(B)(i) of the Legislative Branch Ap-
5 propriations Act, 1991 (2 U.S.C. 59e(e)(2)(B)(i)) is
6 amended by striking “3 times” and inserting “1.5 times”.

1 **SEC. 2. BAN ON TRANSFER FROM OFFICIAL EXPENSES AL-**
2 **LOWANCE AND CLERK HIRE ALLOWANCE TO**
3 **OFFICIAL MAIL ALLOWANCE.**

4 Section 311(e) of the Legislative Branch Appropria-
5 tions Act, 1991 (2 U.S.C. 59e(e)) is amended by striking
6 paragraph (3).

7 **SEC. 3. BAN ON UNSOLICITED MAIL AS FRANKED MAIL**
8 **WITHIN 60 DAYS BEFORE A MEMBER'S PRI-**
9 **MARY AND GENERAL ELECTION.**

10 Section 3210(a)(6) of title 39, United States Code,
11 is amended—

12 (1) by striking “mass mailing” and inserting
13 “unsolicited mailing” each place it occurs in sub-
14 paragraphs (A) through (D); and

15 (2) by adding at the end the following:

16 “(G) As used in this paragraph, the term
17 ‘unsolicited mailing’ means all mail other than
18 mail that is—

19 “(i) in direct response to a commu-
20 nication from a person to whom the matter
21 is mailed;

22 “(ii) from a Member of Congress to
23 other Members of Congress;

24 “(iii) of a news release to the commu-
25 nications media; or

1 “(iv) in furtherance of the administra-
2 tive duties of the Member of Congress.”.

3 **SEC. 4. DISCLOSURE OF MEMBER’S FIRST CLASS MAILINGS**
4 **TO THE PUBLIC.**

5 Section 311(a)(3) of the Legislative Branch Appro-
6 priations Act, 1991 (2 U.S.C. 59e(a)(3)) is amended by
7 adding before the period at the end “, including (by sepa-
8 rate category) the costs relating to franked, first class
9 mass mailings”.

10 **SEC. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

11 The amendments made by this section shall apply
12 with respect to sessions of Congress beginning after the
13 date of enactment of this Act.

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