

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 732

To amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to reform House of Representatives campaign finance laws, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 30, 1995

Mr. GOSS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Oversight and, in addition, to the Committees on Government Reform and Oversight 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.

A BILL

To amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to reform House of Representatives campaign finance laws, 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. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ELECTION LIM-**
4 **TATION ON CONTRIBUTIONS FROM PERSONS**
5 **OTHER THAN LOCAL INDIVIDUAL RESIDENTS.**

6 Section 315 of the Federal Election Campaign Act
7 of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 441a), is amended by adding at the
8 end the following new subsection:

1 “(i) A candidate for the office of Representative in,
 2 or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress
 3 may not, with respect to a reporting period for an election,
 4 accept contributions—

5 “(1) from persons other than individual resi-
 6 dents of the congressional district involved in excess
 7 of 50 percent of the total of contributions accepted;
 8 or

9 “(2) from persons other than individual resi-
 10 dents of the State in which the congressional district
 11 involved is located in excess of 10 percent of the
 12 total of contributions accepted.”.

13 **SEC. 2. REDUCTION IN LIMITATION AMOUNT APPLICABLE**
 14 **TO CONTRIBUTIONS BY A MULTICANDIDATE**
 15 **POLITICAL COMMITTEE TO A HOUSE OF REP-**
 16 **RESENTATIVES CANDIDATE.**

17 Section 315(a)(2)(A) of the Federal Election Cam-
 18 paign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 441a(a)(2)(A)) is amended
 19 by inserting after “\$5,000” the following: “, except that
 20 in the case of an election for the office of Representative
 21 in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Con-
 22 gress, the limitation shall be \$1,000”.

1 **SEC. 3. BAN ON SOFT MONEY.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title III of the Federal Election
3 Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 431 et seq.) is amended
4 by adding at the end the following new section:

5 “LIMITATIONS AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR
6 AMOUNTS PAID FOR MIXED POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

7 “SEC. 323. (a) Any payment by the national commit-
8 tee of a political party or a State committee of a political
9 party for a mixed political activity—

10 “(1) shall be subject to limitation and reporting
11 under this Act as if such payment were an expendi-
12 ture; and

13 “(2) may be paid only from an account that is
14 subject to the requirements of this Act.

15 “(b) As used in this section, the term ‘mixed political
16 activity’ means, with respect to a payment by the national
17 committee of a political party or a State committee of a
18 political party, an activity, such as a voter registration
19 program, a get-out-the-vote drive, or general political ad-
20 vertising, that is both (1) for the purpose of influencing
21 an election for Federal office, and (2) for any purpose un-
22 related to influencing an election for Federal office.”.

23 (b) REPEAL OF BUILDING FUND EXCEPTION TO THE
24 DEFINITION OF THE TERM “CONTRIBUTION”.—Section
25 301(8)(B) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971
26 (2 U.S.C. 431(8)(B)) is amended—

1 (1) by striking out clause (viii); and

2 (2) by redesignating clauses (ix) through (xiv)

3 as clauses (viii) through (xiii), respectively.

4 **SEC. 4. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OFFICIAL MAIL AL-**
5 **LOWANCE FORMULA REDUCTION.**

6 Section 311(e)(2)(B)(i) of the Legislative Branch Ap-
7 propriations Act, 1991 (2 U.S.C. 59e(e)(2)(B)(i)) is
8 amended by striking out “3” and inserting in lieu thereof
9 “1.5”.

10 **SEC. 5. BAN ON UNSOLICITED MAIL AS FRANKED MAIL**
11 **WITHIN 60 DAYS BEFORE A MEMBER’S PRI-**
12 **MARY AND GENERAL ELECTION.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3210(a)(6) of title 39,
14 United States Code, is amended—

15 (1) by striking out “mass mailing” and insert-
16 ing in lieu thereof “unsolicited mailing” each place
17 it occurs in subparagraphs (A) through (D); and

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

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

22 “(i) in direct response to a commu-
23 nication from a person to whom the matter
24 is mailed;

1 “(ii) from a Member of Congress to
2 other Members of Congress;

3 “(iii) a news release to the commu-
4 nications media; or

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

7 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
8 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to sessions of Con-
9 gress beginning after the date of the enactment of this
10 Act.

11 **SEC. 6. DISCLOSURE OF MEMBER’S FIRST CLASS MAILINGS**
12 **TO THE PUBLIC.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 311(a)(3) of the Legisla-
14 tive Branch Appropriations Act, 1991 (2 U.S.C.
15 59e(a)(3)) is amended by adding before the period at the
16 end the following: “, including (by separate category) the
17 costs relating to franked, first class mass mailings”.

18 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
19 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to sessions of Con-
20 gress beginning after the date of the enactment of this
21 Act.

22 **SEC. 7. AMENDMENTS TO COMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1934.**

23 Section 315 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47
24 U.S.C. 315) is amended—

25 (1) in subsection (b)(1)—

1 (A) by striking “forty-five” and inserting
2 “30”;

3 (B) by striking “sixty” and inserting “45”;
4 and

5 (C) by striking “lowest unit charge of the
6 station for the same class and amount of time
7 for the same period” and insert “lowest charge
8 of the station for the same amount of time for
9 the same period”;

10 (2) by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as
11 subsections (d) and (e), respectively;

12 (3) by inserting immediately after subsection
13 (b) the following new subsection:

14 “(c)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), a li-
15 censee shall not preempt the use, during any period speci-
16 fied in subsection (b)(1), of a broadcasting station by a
17 legally qualified candidate for public office who has pur-
18 chased and paid for such use pursuant to the provisions
19 of subsection (b)(1).

20 “(2) If a program to be broadcast by a broadcasting
21 station is preempted because of circumstances beyond the
22 control of the broadcasting station, any candidate adver-
23 tising spot scheduled to be broadcast during that program
24 may also be preempted.”; and

1 (4) in subsection (d) (as redesignated by para-
2 graph (2) of this section)—

3 (A) by striking “and” at the end of para-
4 graph (1);

5 (B) by striking the period at the end of
6 paragraph (2) and inserting “; and”; and

7 (C) by adding at the end thereof the fol-
8 lowing new paragraph:

9 “(3) a station’s lowest charge for purposes of
10 paragraph (1)—

11 “(A) with respect to a primary or primary
12 runoff election, is determined for the interval
13 beginning 60 days before such election and end-
14 ing on the date of that election; and

15 “(B) with respect to a general or special
16 election, is determined for the interval begin-
17 ning 90 days before such election and ending on
18 the date of that election.”.

19 **SEC. 8. PROHIBITION OF TRAVEL BY MEMBERS, OFFICERS,**
20 **AND EMPLOYEES OF THE HOUSE OF REP-**
21 **RESENTATIVES AT LOBBYIST EXPENSE.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—A Member, officer, or employee
23 of the House of Representatives may not perform any
24 travel at the expense of a person who is required to reg-

1 ister under section 308 of the Federal Regulation of Lob-
2 bying Act (2 U.S.C. 267).

3 (b) DEFINITION.—As used in this section, the term
4 “Member of the House of Representatives” means a Rep-
5 resentative in, or a Delegate or Resident Commissioner
6 to, the Congress.

