

104TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 3658

To amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide for campaign spending limits, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 13, 1996

Mr. VOLKMER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Oversight

A BILL

To amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide for campaign spending limits, 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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be referred to as the “Campaign
5 Spending Limitation Reform Act of 1996”.

6 **SEC. 2. NEW TITLE OF FEDERAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN ACT**

7 **OF 1971.**

8 The Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2
9 U.S.C. 431 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the
10 following new title:

1 “TITLE V—CONGRESSIONAL ELECTION
2 CAMPAIGN SPENDING LIMITATIONS

3 **“SEC. 501. SENATE ELECTION CAMPAIGN SPENDING LIM-**
4 **TATIONS.**

5 “Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act—

6 “(1) a candidate for the office of Senator and
7 the authorized committees of the candidate may not
8 make expenditures of more than \$1,000,000 with re-
9 spect to an election cycle;

10 “(2) an individual may not make contributions
11 of more than \$500 to a candidate for the office of
12 Senator and the authorized committees of the can-
13 didate with respect to an election cycle;

14 “(3) a candidate for the office of Senator and
15 the authorized committees of the candidate may not
16 accept contributions from an individual who does not
17 reside in the State in which the election is held;

18 “(4) a multicandidate political committee may
19 not make contributions of more than \$2,500 to a
20 candidate for the office of Senator and the author-
21 ized committees of the candidate with respect to an
22 election cycle;

23 “(5) a candidate for the office of Senator and
24 the authorized committees of the candidate may not
25 accept contributions from a multicandidate political

1 committee that does not have members in the State
2 in which the election is held; and

3 “(6) a candidate for the office of Senator may
4 not make contributions of more than \$10,000 to the
5 campaign of the candidate with respect to an elec-
6 tion cycle.

7 **“SEC. 502. PROVISIONS RELATING TO NATIONAL, STATE,**
8 **AND LOCAL POLITICAL PARTY COMMITTEES**
9 **WITH RESPECT TO ELECTIONS FOR THE OF-**
10 **FICE OF SENATOR.**

11 “Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act—

12 “(1) no national political party committee may
13 make expenditures with respect to an election for the
14 office of Senator;

15 “(2) no State political party committee may
16 make expenditures with respect to an election for the
17 office of Senator; and

18 “(3) a local political party committee may not
19 make contributions of more than \$100 to a can-
20 didate for the office of Senator and the authorized
21 committees of the candidate with respect to an elec-
22 tion cycle.

23 **“SEC. 503. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ELECTION CAM-**
24 **PAIGN SPENDING LIMITATIONS.**

25 “Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act—

1 “(1) a candidate for the office of Representative
2 in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the
3 Congress and the authorized committees of the can-
4 didate may not make expenditures of more than
5 \$200,000 with respect to an election cycle;

6 “(2) an individual may not make contributions
7 of more than \$500 to a candidate for the office of
8 Representative in, or Delegate or Resident Commis-
9 sioner to, the Congress and the authorized commit-
10 tees of the candidate with respect to an election
11 cycle;

12 “(3) a candidate for the office of Representative
13 in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the
14 Congress and the authorized committees of the can-
15 didate may not accept contributions from an individ-
16 ual who does not reside in the congressional district
17 in which the election is held;

18 “(4) a multicandidate political committee may
19 not make contributions of more than \$2,500 to a
20 candidate for the office of Representative in, or Del-
21 egate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress
22 and the authorized committees of the candidate with
23 respect to an election cycle;

24 “(5) a candidate for the office of Representative
25 in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the

1 Congress and the authorized committees of the can-
2 didate may not accept contributions from a multi-
3 candidate political committee that does not have
4 members in the congressional district in which the
5 election is held; and

6 “(6) a candidate for the office of Representative
7 in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the
8 Congress may not make contributions of more than
9 \$10,000 to the campaign of the candidate with re-
10 spect to an election cycle.

11 **“SEC. 504. PROVISIONS RELATING TO NATIONAL, STATE,**
12 **AND LOCAL POLITICAL PARTY COMMITTEES**
13 **WITH RESPECT TO HOUSE OF REPRESENTA-**
14 **TIVES ELECTIONS.**

15 “Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act—

16 “(1) no national political party committee may
17 make expenditures with respect to an election for the
18 office of Representative in, or Delegate or Resident
19 Commissioner to, the Congress;

20 “(2) no State political party committee may
21 make expenditures with respect to an election for the
22 office of Representative in, or Delegate or Resident
23 Commissioner to, the Congress; and

24 “(3) a local political party committee may not
25 make contributions of more than \$100 to a can-

1 didate for the office of Representative in, or Dele-
2 gate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress and
3 the authorized committees of the candidate with re-
4 spect to an election cycle.

5 **“SEC. 505. PENALTY ASSESSMENT FOR EXCEEDING SPEND-**
6 **ING LIMITATIONS.**

7 “(a) **MONETARY PENALTIES.**—Notwithstanding any
8 other provision of this Act, any candidate or authorized
9 committee that makes an expenditure in excess of a limita-
10 tion under this title—

11 “(1) in the case of an expenditure that exceeds
12 a limitation by not more than 10 percent, shall be
13 assessed a penalty in an amount equal to 10 times
14 the amount of the excess expenditure; and

15 “(2) in the case of an expenditure that exceeds
16 a limitation by more than 10 percent, shall be as-
17 sessed a penalty in an amount equal to 20 times the
18 amount of the excess expenditure.

19 “(b) **ADDITIONAL PENALTIES.**—Notwithstanding
20 any other provision of this Act, if a candidate or author-
21 ized committee makes an expenditure in excess of 20 per-
22 cent of a limitation under this title—

23 “(1) in the case of a candidate who wins the
24 election, the candidate shall forfeit the office in-
25 volved; and

1 “(2) in the case of a candidate who loses the
2 election, the candidate shall be ineligible to hold any
3 Federal office for 10 years after the violation.

4 **“SEC. 506. CRIMINAL PENALTY FOR USE OF SOFT MONEY**
5 **OR CONTRIBUTIONS IN KIND.**

6 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other pro-
7 vision of the Act—

8 “(1) no person may use soft money with respect
9 to an election for the office of Senator or Represent-
10 ative in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to,
11 the Congress; and

12 “(2) no person may make or accept a contribu-
13 tion in kind with respect to an election for the office
14 of Senator or Representative in, or Delegate or Resi-
15 dent Commissioner to, the Congress.

16 “(b) CRIMINAL PENALTY.—Whoever violates sub-
17 section (a) shall be fined in accordance with title 18, Unit-
18 ed States Code, imprisoned not more than one year, or
19 both.

20 **“SEC. 507. PAYMENT OF PENALTIES.**

21 “Any monetary penalties paid under this title shall
22 be deposited in the Treasury.

23 **“SEC. 508. DEFINITIONS.**

24 “As used in this title—

25 “(1) the term ‘election cycle’ means—

1 “(A) in the case of a candidate or the au-
2 thorized committees of a candidate, the term
3 beginning on the day after the date of the most
4 general election for the specific office or seat
5 which such candidate seeks and ending on the
6 date of the next general election for such office
7 or seat; or

8 “(B) for all other persons, the term begin-
9 ning on the first day following the date of the
10 last general election and ending on the date of
11 the next general election.

12 “(2) the term ‘soft money’ means—an expendi-
13 ture for a campaign activity with the preponderant
14 purpose or effect of which is to promote a political
15 party rather than any particular Federal or non-
16 Federal candidate.”.

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