

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1416

To amend Federal election laws to repeal the public financing of national political party conventions and Presidential elections and spending limits on Presidential election campaigns, to repeal the limits on coordinated expenditures by political parties, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 7, 1997

Mr. McCONNELL introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To amend Federal election laws to repeal the public financing of national political party conventions and Presidential elections and spending limits on Presidential election campaigns, to repeal the limits on coordinated expenditures by political parties, 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. REPEAL OF LIMIT ON COORDINATED EXPENDI-**
4 **TURES.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 315 of the Federal Elec-
6 tion Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 441a) is amended
7 by striking subsection (d) and inserting the following:

1 “(d) POLITICAL PARTIES.—

2 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other
3 provision of law with respect to limitations on ex-
4 penditures or limitations on contributions, the na-
5 tional committee of a political party and a State
6 committee of a political party, including any subordi-
7 nate committee of a State committee, may make any
8 amount of expenditures in connection with the gen-
9 eral election campaign of a candidate.

10 “(2) TREATMENT OF EXPENDITURES.—An ex-
11 penditure made under paragraph (1) shall not be
12 treated as a contribution to or expenditure made by
13 the candidate, in connection with whom the expendi-
14 ture is made, for any purpose.”.

15 (b) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—Section 315(c)(1) of
16 the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C.
17 441a(c)(1)) is amended by striking “and subsection (d)”.

18 **SEC. 2. REPEAL OF PUBLIC FINANCING AND SPENDING**

19 **LIMITS.**

20 (a) REPEAL OF PUBLIC FINANCING AND SPENDING
21 LIMITS.—Section 6096 and chapters 95 and 96 of the In-
22 ternal Revenue Code of 1986 are repealed.

23 (b) REPEAL OF PRESIDENTIAL LIMITS.—Subsections
24 (b) and (g) of section 315 of the Federal Election Cam-
25 paign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 441a) are repealed.

1 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
2 this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after
3 December 31, 1997.

4 **SEC. 3. CONTRIBUTION LIMITS FOR PRESIDENTIAL CAN-**
5 **DIDATES.**

6 Section 315 of the Federal Election Campaign Act
7 of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 441a) (as amended by section 2) is
8 amended—

9 (1) in subsection (a)—

10 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “No per-

11 son” and inserting “Except as provided in sub-

12 section (b), no person”;

13 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “No

14 multicandidate” and inserting “Except as pro-

15 vided in subsection (b), no multicandidate”; and

16 (C) in paragraph (3), by striking “No indi-

17 vidual” and inserting “Except as provided in

18 subsection (b), no individual”; and

19 (2) by inserting after subsection (a) the follow-

20 ing:

21 “(b)(1) Notwithstanding the limitations on contribu-

22 tions and expenditures in subsection (a), no person shall

23 make a contribution to a candidate for the office of the

24 United States President or the candidate’s authorized po-

1 litical committees with respect to an election for such of-
 2 fice that, in the aggregate, exceeds \$10,000.

3 “(2) For purposes of subsection (a)(3), a contribution
 4 made to a candidate for the office of the United States
 5 President or the candidate’s authorized political commit-
 6 tees shall not be considered to be a contribution.”.

7 **SEC. 4. MODIFICATION OF CONTRIBUTION LIMITS; INDEX-**
 8 **ING.**

9 Section 315 of the Federal Election Campaign Act
 10 of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 441a) is amended—

11 (1) in subsection (a)—

12 (A) in paragraph (1)—

13 (i) in subparagraph (B), by striking
 14 “\$20,000” and inserting “\$60,000”; and

15 (ii) in subparagraph (C), by striking
 16 “\$5,000” and inserting “\$15,000”;

17 (B) in paragraph (2)—

18 (i) in subparagraph (B), by striking
 19 “\$15,000” and inserting “\$45,000”; and

20 (ii) in subparagraph (C), by striking
 21 “\$5,000” and inserting “\$15,000”; and

22 (C) in paragraph (3)—

23 (i) by striking “contributions” and in-
 24 serting “contributions, as described in sub-

1 paragraphs (A) and (C) of paragraph
2 (1),”;

3 (ii) by striking “\$25,000” and insert-
4 ing “\$75,000”; and

5 (iii) by striking the second sentence;

6 (2) in subsection (c)—

7 (A) in paragraph (1)—

8 (i) by striking the second and third
9 sentences;

10 (ii) by inserting “(A)” before “At the
11 beginning”; and

12 (iii) by adding at the end the follow-
13 ing:

14 “(B) A limitation established by subsection (a) or (b)
15 shall be increased by the percent difference determined
16 under subparagraph (A), and the increased amount, if not
17 a multiple of \$1,000, shall be rounded to the nearest mul-
18 tiple of \$1,000.

19 “(C) Each amount increased under subparagraph (B)
20 shall remain in effect for the 2-year period beginning on
21 the first day following the date of the last general election
22 in the year in which the amount is increased and ending
23 on the date of the next general election.”; and

24 (B) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking
25 “1974” and inserting “1997”.

1 **SEC. 5. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

2 (a) INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986.—Subtitle
3 H of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended in
4 the table of chapters, by striking the items relating to
5 chapters 95 and 96 and inserting the following:

“95. [Repealed.]
“96. [Repealed.]”.

6 (b) FEDERAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN ACT OF 1971.—
7 Title III of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971
8 (2 U.S.C. 431 et seq.) is amended—

9 (1) in section 301(1)(B), by inserting “(not in-
10 cluding a national political party)” after “political
11 party”;

12 (2) in each of the following provisions, by strik-
13 ing “or chapter 95 or chapter 96 of the Internal
14 Revenue Code of 1954”: section 301(8)(B)(ix)(II) (2
15 U.S.C. 431(8)(B)(ix)(II)), section 301(9)(B)(vii)(II)
16 (2 U.S.C. 431(9)(B)(vii)(II)), section 302(i) (2
17 U.S.C. 432(i)), section 309(a)(4)(B)(ii) (2 U.S.C.
18 437g(a)(4)(B)(ii)), and section 309(a)(6)(B) (2
19 U.S.C. 437g(a)(6)(B));

20 (3) in section 301(9)(B)(vi), by striking “, ex-
21 cept that this clause” and all that follows through
22 “section 304(b)”;

23 (4) in section 304(b)(2), by—

1 (A) adding “and” at the end of subpara-
2 graph (I);

3 (B) striking “and” at the end of subpara-
4 graph (J) and inserting a period; and

5 (C) striking subparagraph (K);

6 (5) in section 304(b)(4)(I), by striking “dis-
7 bursements not subject to the limitation of section
8 315(b)” and inserting “any disbursements”;

9 (6) in each of the following provisions, by strik-
10 ing “and chapter 95 and chapter 96 of the Internal
11 Revenue Code of 1954”: section 306(b)(1) (2 U.S.C.
12 437c(b)(1)), section 307(a)(6) (2 U.S.C.
13 437d(a)(6)), and section 307(a)(8) (2 U.S.C.
14 437d(a)(8));

15 (7) in section 306(e), by striking “or with chap-
16 ter 95 or chapter 96 of the Internal Revenue Code
17 of 1954”;

18 (8) in section 308(a)(1), by striking “, chapter
19 95 or chapter 96 of the Internal Revenue Code of
20 1954,”;

21 (9) in section 308(b), by striking “or in chapter
22 95 or chapter 96 of the Internal Revenue Code of
23 1954”;

24 (10) in each of the following provisions, by
25 striking “or by chapter 95 or chapter 96 of the In-

1 ternal Revenue Code of 1954”: section 308(e)(2) (2
2 U.S.C. 437f(c)(2)) and section 311(e) (2 U.S.C.
3 438(e));

4 (11) in each of the following provisions, by
5 striking “or of chapter 95 or chapter 96 of the In-
6 ternal Revenue Code of 1954”: section 309(a)(1) (2
7 U.S.C. 437g(a)(1)), section 309(a)(4)(A)(i) (2
8 U.S.C. 437g(a)(4)(A)(i)), section 309(a)(5)(A) (2
9 U.S.C. 437g(a)(5)(A)), section 309(a)(5)(B) (2
10 U.S.C. 437g(a)(5)(B)), section 309(a)(6)(A) (2
11 U.S.C. 437g(a)(6)(A)), section 309(a)(6)(C) (2
12 U.S.C. 437g(a)(6)(C)), section 309(d)(2) (2 U.S.C.
13 437g(d)(2)), and section 309(d)(3) (2 U.S.C.
14 437g(d)(3));

15 (12) in section 309(a)(2), by striking “of chap-
16 ter 95 or chapter 96 of the Internal Revenue Code
17 of 1954”;

18 (13) in section 309(a)(5)(C), by striking “or a
19 knowing and willful violation of chapter 95 or chap-
20 ter 96 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954,”;

21 (14) in section 311(b), by striking the second
22 sentence;

23 (15) in section 314 by striking “, and under
24 chapters 95 and 96 of the Internal Revenue Code of
25 1954,”; and

1 (16) in section 315(a)(5)—

2 (A) by striking “offices; (ii) the limita-
3 tions” and inserting “offices; and (ii) the limi-
4 tations”; and

5 (B) by striking “; and (iii) the candidate
6 has not elected to receive any funds under
7 chapter 95 or chapter 96 of the Internal Reve-
8 nue Code of 1954”.

9 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
10 this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after
11 December 31, 1997.

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