

Public Law 96-28
96th Congress

An Act

June 22, 1979
[S. 869]

To amend section 207 of title 18, United States Code.

Ethics in
Government Act
of 1978,
amendment.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That subsection (b) of section 207 of title 18, United States Code, as amended by the Act of October 26, 1978 (Public Law 95-521, section 501(a); 92 Stat. 1864) is amended as follows: In clause (ii), strike "concerning" and insert "by personal presence at"; and in subparagraph (3), before "which was" insert ", as to (i)," and after "responsibility, or" insert ", as to (ii),".

SEC. 2. Subsection (d) of section 207 of title 18, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"(d)(1) Subsection (c) of this section shall apply to a person employed—

5 USC 5311.

"(A) at a rate of pay specified in or fixed according to subchapter II of chapter 53 of title 5, United States Code, or a comparable or greater rate of pay under other authority;

"(B) on active duty as a commissioned officer of a uniformed service assigned to pay grade of O-9 or above as described in section 201 of title 37, United States Code; or

5 USC 5332 note.

"(C) in a position which involves significant decision-making or supervisory responsibility, as designated under this subparagraph by the Director of the Office of Government Ethics, in consultation with the department or agency concerned. Only positions which are not covered by subparagraphs (A) and (B) above, and for which the basic rate of pay is equal to or greater than the basic rate of pay for GS-17 of the General Schedule prescribed by section 5332 of title 5, United States Code, or positions which are established within the Senior Executive Service pursuant to the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978, or positions of active duty commissioned officers of the uniformed services assigned to pay O-7 or O-8, as described in section 201 of title 37, United States Code, may be designated. As to persons in positions designated under this subparagraph, the Director may limit the restrictions of subsection (c) to permit a former officer or employee, who served in a separate agency or bureau within a department or agency, to make appearances before or communications to persons in an unrelated agency or bureau, within the same department or agency, having separate and distinct subject matter jurisdiction, upon a determination by the Director that there exists no potential for use of undue influence or unfair advantage based on past government service. On an annual basis, the Director of the Office of Government Ethics shall review the designations and determinations made under this subparagraph and, in consultation with the department or agency concerned, make such additions and deletions as are necessary. Departments and agencies shall cooperate to the fullest extent with the Director of the Office of Government Ethics in the exercise of his responsibilities under this paragraph.

5 USC 1101 note.

Departments
and agencies,
cooperation.

“(2) The prohibition of subsection (c) shall not apply to appearances, communications, or representation by a former officer or employee, who is—

“(A) an elected official of a State or local government, or

“(B) whose principal occupation or employment is with (i) an agency or instrumentality of a State or local government, (ii) an accredited, degree-granting institution of higher education, as defined in section 1201(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965, or (iii) a hospital or medical research organization, exempted and defined under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, and the appearance, communication, or representation is on behalf of such government, institution, hospital, or organization.”.

20 USC 1141.

26 USC 501.

Approved June 22, 1979.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

HOUSE REPORT No. 96-115 (Comm. on the Judiciary).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 125 (1979):

Apr. 9, considered and passed Senate.

May 16, 24, considered and passed House, amended.

June 14, Senate concurred in House amendments, with an amendment.

June 15, House concurred in Senate amendment to House amendment No. 1 and receded from House amendment No. 2.

WEEKLY COMPILATION OF PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS, Vol. 15, No. 25:

June 22, Presidential statement.