

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 153

To amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit certain political committees from compensating an immediate family member of the candidate for services provided to or on behalf of the committee, to require such committees to report on payments made to immediate family members of the candidate, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 9, 2023

Mr. FALLON (for himself and Mr. JACKSON of Texas) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration

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## A BILL

To amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit certain political committees from compensating an immediate family member of the candidate for services provided to or on behalf of the committee, to require such committees to report on payments made to immediate family members of the candidate, 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 cited as the “Family Integrity to  
5 Reform Elections Act” or the “FIRE Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITING USE OF CAMPAIGN FUNDS TO COM-**  
2 **PENSATE IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBERS OF**  
3 **CANDIDATES; DISCLOSURE OF PAYMENTS**  
4 **MADE TO IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBERS.**

5 (a) PROHIBITION; DISCLOSURE.—Section 313 of the  
6 Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C.  
7 30114) is amended by adding at the end the following new  
8 subsection:

9 “(d) PROHIBITING COMPENSATION OF IMMEDIATE  
10 FAMILY MEMBERS; DISCLOSURE OF PAYMENTS TO IMME-  
11 DIATE FAMILY MEMBERS.—

12 “(1) PROHIBITING COMPENSATION OF IMME-  
13 DIATE FAMILY MEMBERS.—Notwithstanding any  
14 other provision of this Act, no authorized committee  
15 of a candidate or any other political committee es-  
16 tablished, maintained, or controlled by a candidate  
17 or an individual holding Federal office (other than  
18 a political committee of a political party) shall di-  
19 rectly or indirectly compensate an immediate family  
20 member of the candidate or individual (as the case  
21 may be) for services provided to or on behalf of the  
22 committee.

23 “(2) DISCLOSURE OF PAYMENTS TO IMMEDIATE  
24 FAMILY MEMBERS.—In addition to any other infor-  
25 mation included in a report submitted under section  
26 304 by a committee described in paragraph (1), the

1 committee shall include in the report a separate  
2 statement of any payments, including direct or indi-  
3 rect compensation, made to any immediate family  
4 member of the candidate or individual involved dur-  
5 ing the period covered by the report.

6 “(3) IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBER DEFINED.—  
7 In this subsection, the term ‘immediate family mem-  
8 ber’ means, with respect to a candidate or indi-  
9 vidual, any of the following:

10 “(A) Spouse, and parents thereof.

11 “(B) Sons and daughters, and spouses  
12 thereof.

13 “(C) Parents, and spouses thereof.

14 “(D) Brothers and sisters, and spouses  
15 thereof.

16 “(E) Grandparents and grandchildren, and  
17 spouses thereof.

18 “(F) Domestic partner and parents there-  
19 of, including domestic partners of any indi-  
20 vidual in subparagraphs (A) through (E).”.

21 (b) ENFORCEMENT.—Section 309(d)(1) of the Fed-  
22 eral Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C.  
23 30109(d)(1)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
24 lowing new subparagraph:

1       “(E) Any person who knowingly and willfully com-  
 2 mits a violation of section 313(d) shall be fined not more  
 3 than the greater of 200 percent of the amount of the com-  
 4 pensation paid in violation of such section or \$100,000  
 5 for each violation of such section, imprisoned for not more  
 6 than 2 years, or both.”.

7       (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 313(a)(1)  
 8 of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30114(a)(1)) is amended by strik-  
 9 ing “for otherwise” and inserting “subject to subsection  
 10 (d), for otherwise”.

11 **SEC. 3. IMPOSITION OF PENALTY AGAINST CANDIDATE OR**  
 12 **OFFICEHOLDER.**

13       (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 309 of the Federal Elec-  
 14 tion Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30109) is amended  
 15 by adding at the end the following new subsection:

16       “(e) In the case of a violation of section 313(d) com-  
 17 mitted by a committee described in such section, if the  
 18 candidate or individual involved knew of the violation, any  
 19 penalty imposed under this section shall be imposed on  
 20 the candidate or individual and not on the committee.”.

21       (b) PROHIBITING REIMBURSEMENT BY COM-  
 22 MITTEE.—Section 313(d) of such Act (52 U.S.C.  
 23 30114(d)), as added by section 2(a), is amended—

24               (1) by redesignating paragraph (3) as para-  
 25               graph (4); and

1           (2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-  
2           lowing new paragraph:

3           “(3) PROHIBITING REIMBURSEMENT BY COM-  
4           MITTEE OF PENALTY PAID BY CANDIDATE FOR VIO-  
5           LATIONS.—A committee described in paragraph (1)  
6           may not make any payment to reimburse the can-  
7           didate or individual involved for any penalty imposed  
8           for a violation of this subsection which is required  
9           to be paid by the candidate or individual under sec-  
10          tion 309(e).”.

11 **SEC. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

12          The amendments made by this Act shall apply with  
13          respect to compensation and payments made on or after  
14          the date of enactment of this Act.

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