

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 5277

To reform the financing of Senate elections, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 15, 2022

Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. SMITH, Mr. SCHATZ, and Ms. WARREN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To reform the financing of Senate elections, 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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Fair Elections Now Act of 2022”.

6 (b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents of
7 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—SMALL DONOR INCENTIVE PROGRAMS

Sec. 101. Sense of the Senate regarding small donor incentive programs.

TITLE II—SMALL DOLLAR FINANCING OF SENATE ELECTION
CAMPAIGNS

- Sec. 201. Eligibility requirements and benefits of fair elections financing of Senate election campaigns.
- Sec. 202. Prohibition on joint fundraising committees.
- Sec. 203. Exception to limitation on coordinated expenditures by political party committees with participating candidates.

TITLE III—RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE FEDERAL ELECTION
COMMISSION

- Sec. 301. Petition for certiorari.
- Sec. 302. Electronic filing of FEC reports.

TITLE IV—REVENUE PROVISIONS

- Sec. 401. Freedom From Influence Fund revenue.

TITLE V—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

- Sec. 501. Severability.
- Sec. 502. Effective date.

1 **TITLE I—SMALL DONOR**
 2 **INCENTIVE PROGRAMS**
 3 **SEC. 101. SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING SMALL**
 4 **DONOR INCENTIVE PROGRAMS.**

5 It is the sense of the Senate that Congress should
 6 take steps to allow more Americans to fully participate
 7 in our democracy through authorizing publicly financed
 8 small donor incentive programs, including small-dollar
 9 voucher programs that broaden and diversify the number
 10 of Americans who are able to have their voice heard in
 11 the marketplace of ideas.

1 **TITLE II—SMALL DOLLAR FI-**
 2 **NANCING OF SENATE ELEC-**
 3 **TION CAMPAIGNS**

4 **SEC. 201. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND BENEFITS OF**
 5 **FAIR ELECTIONS FINANCING OF SENATE**
 6 **ELECTION CAMPAIGNS.**

7 The Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52
 8 U.S.C. 30101 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end
 9 the following:

10 **“TITLE V—FAIR ELECTIONS FI-**
 11 **NANCING OF SENATE ELEC-**
 12 **TION CAMPAIGNS**

13 **“Subtitle A—General Provisions**

14 **“SEC. 501. DEFINITIONS.**

15 “In this title:

16 “(1) **ALLOCATION FROM THE FUND.**—The term
 17 ‘allocation from the Fund’ means an allocation of
 18 money from the Freedom From Influence Fund to
 19 a participating candidate pursuant to section 522.

20 “(2) **COMMISSION.**—The term ‘Commission’
 21 means the Federal Election Commission.

22 “(3) **ENHANCED MATCHING CONTRIBUTION.**—
 23 The term ‘enhanced matching contribution’ means
 24 an enhanced matching payment provided to a par-

1 participating candidate for qualified small dollar con-
2 tributions, as provided under section 524.

3 “(4) ENHANCED SUPPORT QUALIFYING PE-
4 RIOD.—The term ‘enhanced support qualifying pe-
5 riod’ means, with respect to a general election, the
6 period which begins 60 days before the date of the
7 election and ends 14 days before the date of the
8 election.

9 “(5) FAIR ELECTIONS QUALIFYING PERIOD.—
10 The term ‘Fair Elections qualifying period’ means,
11 with respect to any candidate for Senator, the pe-
12 riod—

13 “(A) beginning on the date on which the
14 candidate files a statement of intent under sec-
15 tion 511(a)(1); and

16 “(B) ending on the date that is 30 days
17 before—

18 “(i) the date of the primary election;

19 or

20 “(ii) in the case of a State that does
21 not hold a primary election, the date pre-
22 scribed by State law as the last day to
23 qualify for a position on the general elec-
24 tion ballot.

1 “(6) FAIR ELECTIONS START DATE.—The term
2 ‘Fair Elections start date’ means, with respect to
3 any candidate, the date that is 180 days before—

4 “(A) the date of the primary election; or

5 “(B) in the case of a State that does not
6 hold a primary election, the date prescribed by
7 State law as the last day to qualify for a posi-
8 tion on the general election ballot.

9 “(7) FUND.—The term ‘Fund’ means the Free-
10 dom From Influence Fund established by section
11 502.

12 “(8) IMMEDIATE FAMILY.—The term ‘imme-
13 diate family’ means, with respect to any candidate—

14 “(A) the candidate’s spouse;

15 “(B) a child, stepchild, parent, grand-
16 parent, brother, half-brother, sister, or half-sis-
17 ter of the candidate or the candidate’s spouse;
18 and

19 “(C) the spouse of any person described in
20 subparagraph (B).

21 “(9) MATCHING CONTRIBUTION.—The term
22 ‘matching contribution’ means a matching payment
23 provided to a participating candidate for qualified
24 small dollar contributions, as provided under section
25 523.

1 “(10) NONPARTICIPATING CANDIDATE.—The
2 term ‘nonparticipating candidate’ means a candidate
3 for Senator who is not a participating candidate.

4 “(11) PARTICIPATING CANDIDATE.—The term
5 ‘participating candidate’ means a candidate for Sen-
6 ator who is certified under section 514 as being eli-
7 gible to receive an allocation from the Fund.

8 “(12) QUALIFYING CONTRIBUTION.—The term
9 ‘qualifying contribution’ means, with respect to a
10 candidate, a contribution that—

11 “(A) is in an amount that is—

12 “(i) not less than \$5; and

13 “(ii) not more than \$200;

14 “(B) is made by an individual who is not
15 otherwise prohibited from making a contribu-
16 tion under this Act;

17 “(C) is made during the Fair Elections
18 qualifying period; and

19 “(D) meets the requirements of section
20 512(b).

21 “(13) QUALIFIED SMALL DOLLAR CONTRIBU-
22 TION.—The term ‘qualified small dollar contribution’
23 means, with respect to a candidate, any contribution
24 (or series of contributions)—

1 “(A) which is not a qualifying contribution
2 (or does not include a qualifying contribution);

3 “(B) which is made by an individual who
4 is not prohibited from making a contribution
5 under this Act; and

6 “(C) the aggregate amount of which does
7 not exceed \$200 per election.

8 “(14) QUALIFYING MULTICANDIDATE POLIT-
9 ICAL COMMITTEE CONTRIBUTION.—

10 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘qualifying
11 multicandidate political committee contribution’
12 means any contribution to a candidate that is
13 made from a qualified account of a multi-
14 candidate political committee (within the mean-
15 ing of section 315(a)(2)).

16 “(B) QUALIFIED ACCOUNT.—For purposes
17 of subparagraph (A), the term ‘qualified ac-
18 count’ means, with respect to a multicandidate
19 political committee, a separate, segregated ac-
20 count of the committee that consists solely of
21 contributions which meet the following require-
22 ments:

23 “(i) All contributions to such account
24 are made by individuals who are not pro-

1 hibited from making contributions under
2 this Act.

3 “(ii) The aggregate amount of con-
4 tributions from each individual to such ac-
5 count and all other accounts of the polit-
6 ical committee do not exceed the amount
7 described in paragraph (13)(C).

8 **“SEC. 502. FREEDOM FROM INFLUENCE FUND.**

9 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the
10 Treasury a fund to be known as the ‘Freedom from Infl-
11 uence Fund’.

12 “(b) AMOUNTS HELD BY FUND.—The Fund shall
13 consist of the following amounts:

14 “(1) APPROPRIATED AMOUNTS.—

15 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Amounts appropriated
16 to the Fund.

17 “(B) SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING
18 APPROPRIATIONS.—It is the sense of the Senate
19 that—

20 “(i) there should be imposed on any
21 payment made to any person (other than a
22 State or local government or a foreign na-
23 tion) who has a contract with the Govern-
24 ment of the United States in excess of
25 \$10,000,000 a tax equal to 0.50 percent of

1 amount paid pursuant to each contract, ex-
2 cept that the aggregate tax on each con-
3 tract for any taxable year shall not exceed
4 \$500,000; and

5 “(ii) the revenue from such tax should
6 be appropriated to the Fund.

7 “(2) VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS.—Voluntary
8 contributions to the Fund.

9 “(3) OTHER DEPOSITS.—Amounts deposited
10 into the Fund under—

11 “(A) section 513(e) (relating to exceptions
12 to contribution requirements);

13 “(B) section 521(e) (relating to remittance
14 of allocations from the Fund);

15 “(C) section 532 (relating to violations);
16 and

17 “(D) any other section of this Act.

18 “(4) INVESTMENT RETURNS.—Interest on, and
19 the proceeds from, the sale or redemption of, any
20 obligations held by the Fund under subsection (c).

21 “(c) INVESTMENT.—The Commission shall invest
22 portions of the Fund in obligations of the United States
23 in the same manner as provided under section 9602(b)
24 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

25 “(d) USE OF FUND.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The sums in the Fund
2 shall be used to provide benefits to participating
3 candidates as provided in subtitle C.

4 “(2) INSUFFICIENT AMOUNTS.—Under regula-
5 tions established by the Commission, rules similar to
6 the rules of section 9006(c) of the Internal Revenue
7 Code shall apply.

8 **“Subtitle B—Eligibility and**
9 **Certification**

10 **“SEC. 511. ELIGIBILITY.**

11 “(a) IN GENERAL.—A candidate for Senator is eligi-
12 ble to receive an allocation from the Fund for any election
13 if the candidate meets the following requirements:

14 “(1) The candidate files with the Commission a
15 statement of intent to seek certification as a partici-
16 pating candidate under this title during the period
17 beginning on the Fair Elections start date and end-
18 ing on the last day of the Fair Elections qualifying
19 period.

20 “(2) The candidate meets the qualifying con-
21 tribution requirements of section 512.

22 “(3) The candidate files with the Commission a
23 statement certifying that the authorized committees
24 of the candidate meet the requirements of section
25 513(d)(2).

1 “(4) Not later than the last day of the Fair
 2 Elections qualifying period, the candidate files with
 3 the Commission an affidavit signed by the candidate
 4 and the treasurer of the candidate’s principal cam-
 5 paign committee declaring that the candidate—

6 “(A) has complied and, if certified, will
 7 comply with the contribution and expenditure
 8 requirements of section 513;

9 “(B) if certified, will not run as a non-
 10 participating candidate during such year in any
 11 election for the office that such candidate is
 12 seeking; and

13 “(C) has either qualified or will take steps
 14 to qualify under State law to be on the ballot.

15 “(b) GENERAL ELECTION.—Notwithstanding sub-
 16 section (a), a candidate shall not be eligible to receive an
 17 allocation from the Fund for a general election or a gen-
 18 eral runoff election unless the candidate’s party nominated
 19 the candidate to be placed on the ballot for the general
 20 election or the candidate otherwise qualified to be on the
 21 ballot under State law.

22 **“SEC. 512. QUALIFYING CONTRIBUTION REQUIREMENT.**

23 “(a) IN GENERAL.—A candidate for Senator meets
 24 the requirement of this section if, during the Fair Elec-
 25 tions qualifying period, the candidate obtains—

1 “(1) a number of qualifying contributions equal
2 to the sum of—

3 “(A) 2,000; plus

4 “(B) 500 for each congressional district in
5 the State with respect to which the candidate is
6 seeking election; and

7 “(2) a total dollar amount of qualifying con-
8 tributions equal to 10 percent of the amount of the
9 allocation such candidate would be entitled to receive
10 for the primary election under section 522(c)(1) (de-
11 termined without regard to paragraph (5) thereof) if
12 such candidate were a participating candidate.

13 “(b) REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO RECEIPT OF
14 QUALIFYING CONTRIBUTION.—Each qualifying contribu-
15 tion—

16 “(1) may be made by means of a personal
17 check, money order, debit card, credit card, or elec-
18 tronic payment account;

19 “(2) shall be accompanied by a signed state-
20 ment containing the contributor’s name and the con-
21 tributor’s address in the State in which the contrib-
22 utor is registered to vote; and

23 “(3) shall be acknowledged by a receipt that is
24 sent to the contributor with a copy kept by the can-
25 didate for the Commission and a copy kept by the

1 candidate for the election authorities in the State
 2 with respect to which the candidate is seeking elec-
 3 tion.

4 “(c) VERIFICATION OF QUALIFYING CONTRIBU-
 5 TIONS.—The Commission shall establish procedures for
 6 the auditing and verification of qualifying contributions to
 7 ensure that such contributions meet the requirements of
 8 this section.

9 **“SEC. 513. CONTRIBUTION AND EXPENDITURE REQUIRE-**
 10 **MENTS.**

11 “(a) GENERAL RULE.—A candidate for Senator
 12 meets the requirements of this section if, during the elec-
 13 tion cycle of the candidate, the candidate—

14 “(1) except as provided in subsection (b), ac-
 15 cepts no contributions other than—

16 “(A) qualifying contributions;

17 “(B) qualified small dollar contributions;

18 “(C) qualifying multicandidate political
 19 committee contributions;

20 “(D) allocations from the Fund under sec-
 21 tion 522;

22 “(E) matching contributions under section
 23 523;

24 “(F) enhanced matching contributions
 25 under section 524;

1 “(G) vouchers provided to the candidate
2 under section 525;

3 “(H) subject to subsection (c), personal
4 funds of the candidate or of any immediate
5 family member of the candidate (other than
6 funds received through qualified small dollar
7 contributions); and

8 “(I) subject to subsection (d), contribu-
9 tions from individuals who are otherwise per-
10 mitted to make contributions under this Act,
11 subject to the applicable limitations of section
12 315, except that the aggregate amount of con-
13 tributions a participating candidate may accept
14 from any individual with respect to any election
15 during the election cycle may not exceed
16 \$1,000; and

17 “(2) makes no expenditures from any amounts
18 other than from—

19 “(A) qualifying contributions;

20 “(B) qualified small dollar contributions;

21 “(C) qualifying multicandidate political
22 committee contributions;

23 “(D) allocations from the Fund under sec-
24 tion 522;

1 “(E) matching contributions under section
2 523;

3 “(F) enhanced matching contributions
4 under section 524;

5 “(G) vouchers provided to the candidate
6 under section 525;

7 “(H) subject to subsection (c), personal
8 funds of the candidate or of any immediate
9 family member of the candidate (other than
10 funds received through qualified small dollar
11 contributions); and

12 “(I) subject to subsection (d), contribu-
13 tions from individuals who are otherwise per-
14 mitted to make contributions under this Act,
15 subject to the applicable limitations of section
16 315, except that the aggregate amount of con-
17 tributions a participating candidate may accept
18 from any individual with respect to any election
19 during the election cycle may not exceed
20 \$1,000.

21 For purposes of this subsection, a payment made by a po-
22 litical party in coordination with a participating candidate
23 shall not be treated as a contribution to or as an expendi-
24 ture made by the participating candidate.

1 “(b) CONTRIBUTIONS FOR LEADERSHIP PACS,
2 ETC.—A political committee of a participating candidate
3 which is not an authorized committee of such candidate
4 may accept contributions other than contributions de-
5 scribed in subsection (a)(1) from any person if—

6 “(1) the aggregate contributions from such per-
7 son for any calendar year do not exceed \$200; and

8 “(2) no portion of such contributions is dis-
9 bursed in connection with the campaign of the par-
10 ticipating candidate.

11 “(c) SPECIAL RULES FOR PERSONAL FUNDS.—A
12 candidate who is certified as a participating candidate may
13 use personal funds (including personal funds of any imme-
14 diate family member of the candidate) so long as—

15 “(1) the aggregate amount used with respect to
16 the election cycle (including any period of the cycle
17 occurring prior to the candidate’s certification as a
18 participating candidate) does not exceed \$50,000;
19 and

20 “(2) the funds are used only for making direct
21 payments for the receipt of goods and services which
22 constitute authorized expenditures in connection
23 with the election cycle involved.

24 “(d) REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO SUBSEQUENT
25 CONTRIBUTIONS AND NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.—

1 “(1) RESTRICTION ON SUBSEQUENT CONTRIBU-
2 TIONS.—

3 “(A) PROHIBITING DONOR FROM MAKING
4 SUBSEQUENT NONQUALIFIED CONTRIBUTIONS
5 DURING ELECTION CYCLE.—An individual who
6 makes a qualified small dollar contribution to a
7 candidate with respect to an election may not
8 make any subsequent contribution to such can-
9 didate with respect to the election cycle which
10 is not a qualified small dollar contribution.

11 “(B) TREATMENT OF SUBSEQUENT NON-
12 QUALIFIED CONTRIBUTIONS.—If, notwith-
13 standing the prohibition described in subpara-
14 graph (A), an individual who makes a qualified
15 small dollar contribution to a candidate with re-
16 spect to an election makes a subsequent con-
17 tribution to such candidate with respect to the
18 election which is prohibited under subparagraph
19 (A) because it is not a qualified small dollar
20 contribution, the candidate may take one of the
21 following actions:

22 “(i) Not later than 2 weeks after re-
23 ceiving the contribution, the candidate may
24 return the subsequent contribution to the
25 individual. In the case of a subsequent con-

1 tribution which is not a qualified small dol-
2 lar contribution because the contribution
3 fails to meet the requirements of para-
4 graph (13)(C) of section 501 (relating to
5 the aggregate amount of qualified small
6 dollar contributions that may be made by
7 an individual to a candidate), the can-
8 didate may return an amount equal to the
9 difference between the amount of the sub-
10 sequent contribution and the amount de-
11 scribed in such paragraph.

12 “(ii) The candidate may retain the
13 subsequent contribution, so long as not
14 later than 2 weeks after receiving the sub-
15 sequent contribution, the candidate remits
16 to the Commission for deposit in the Free-
17 dom from Influence Fund established by
18 section 502 an amount equal to any pay-
19 ments received by the candidate under this
20 title which are attributable to the qualified
21 small dollar contribution made by the indi-
22 vidual involved.

23 “(C) NO EFFECT ON ABILITY TO MAKE
24 MULTIPLE CONTRIBUTIONS.—Nothing in this
25 subsection may be construed to prohibit an in-

1 dividual from making multiple qualified small
2 dollar contributions to any candidate or any
3 number of candidates, so long as each contribu-
4 tion meets the definition of a qualified small
5 dollar contribution under section 501(13).

6 “(2) NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR CAN-
7 DIDATES.—

8 “(A) NOTIFICATION.—Each authorized
9 committee of a candidate who seeks to be a par-
10 ticipating candidate under this title shall pro-
11 vide the following information in any materials
12 for the solicitation of contributions, including
13 any internet site through which individuals may
14 make contributions to the committee:

15 “(i) A statement that if the candidate
16 is certified as a participating candidate
17 under this title, the candidate will receive
18 matching payments in an amount which is
19 based on the total amount of qualified
20 small dollar contributions received.

21 “(ii) A statement that a contribution
22 which meets the definition of a qualified
23 small dollar contribution under section
24 501(13) shall be treated as a qualified
25 small dollar contribution under this title.

1 “(iii) A statement that if a contribu-
2 tion is treated as qualified small dollar
3 contribution under this title, the individual
4 who makes the contribution may not make
5 any contribution to the candidate or the
6 authorized committees of the candidate
7 during the election cycle which is not a
8 qualified small dollar contribution.

9 “(B) ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF MEETING
10 REQUIREMENTS.—An authorized committee
11 may meet the requirements of subparagraph
12 (A)—

13 “(i) by including the information de-
14 scribed in paragraph (1) in the receipt pro-
15 vided under section 512(b)(3) to a person
16 making a qualified small dollar contribu-
17 tion; or

18 “(ii) by modifying the information it
19 provides to persons making contributions
20 which is otherwise required under title III
21 (including information it provides through
22 the internet).

23 “(e) EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), a
24 candidate shall not be treated as having failed to meet
25 the requirements of this section if any contributions that

1 are not qualified small dollar contributions, qualifying con-
2 tributions, qualifying multicandidate political committee
3 contributions, or contributions that meet the requirements
4 of subsection (b) and that are accepted before the date
5 the candidate files a statement of intent under section
6 511(a)(1) are—

7 “(1) returned to the contributor; or

8 “(2) submitted to the Commission for deposit in
9 the Fund.

10 **“SEC. 514. CERTIFICATION.**

11 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 5 days after a
12 candidate for Senator files an affidavit under section
13 511(a)(4), the Commission shall—

14 “(1) certify whether or not the candidate is a
15 participating candidate; and

16 “(2) notify the candidate of the Commission’s
17 determination.

18 “(b) REVOCATION OF CERTIFICATION.—

19 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission may re-
20 voke a certification under subsection (a) if—

21 “(A) a candidate fails to qualify to appear
22 on the ballot at any time after the date of cer-
23 tification; or

24 “(B) a candidate otherwise fails to comply
25 with the requirements of this title, including

1 any regulatory requirements prescribed by the
2 Commission.

3 “(2) REPAYMENT OF BENEFITS.—If certifi-
4 cation is revoked under paragraph (1), the candidate
5 shall repay to the Fund an amount equal to the
6 value of benefits received under this title plus inter-
7 est (at a rate determined by the Commission) on any
8 such amount received.

9 **“Subtitle C—Benefits**

10 **“SEC. 521. BENEFITS FOR PARTICIPATING CANDIDATES.**

11 “(a) IN GENERAL.—For each election with respect
12 to which a candidate is certified as a participating can-
13 didate under section 514, such candidate shall be entitled
14 to—

15 “(1) an allocation from the Fund to make or
16 obligate to make expenditures with respect to such
17 election, as provided in section 522;

18 “(2) matching contributions, as provided in sec-
19 tion 523;

20 “(3) enhanced matching contributions, as pro-
21 vided in section 524; and

22 “(4) for the general election, vouchers for
23 broadcasts of political advertisements, as provided in
24 section 525.

1 “(b) RESTRICTION ON USES OF ALLOCATIONS FROM
 2 THE FUND.—Allocations from the Fund received by a par-
 3 ticipating candidate under section 522, matching contribu-
 4 tions under section 523, and enhanced matching contribu-
 5 tions under section 524 may only be used for campaign-
 6 related costs.

7 “(c) REMITTING ALLOCATIONS FROM THE FUND.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than the date
 9 that is 180 days after an election in which the par-
 10 ticipating candidate appeared on the ballot, such
 11 participating candidate shall remit to the Commis-
 12 sion for deposit in the Fund an amount equal to the
 13 lesser of—

14 “(A) the amount of money in the can-
 15 didate’s campaign account; or

16 “(B) the sum of the allocations from the
 17 Fund received by the candidate under section
 18 522, the matching contributions received by the
 19 candidate under section 523, and the enhanced
 20 matching contributions under section 524.

21 “(2) EXCEPTIONS.—

22 “(A) SUBSEQUENT ELECTION.—In the
 23 case of a candidate who qualifies to be on the
 24 ballot for a primary runoff election, a general
 25 election, or a general runoff election, the

1 amounts described in paragraph (1) may be re-
2 tained by the candidate and used in such subse-
3 quent election.

4 “(B) CANDIDATE SEEKING CERTIFICATION
5 FOR NEXT ELECTION CYCLE.—Notwithstanding
6 paragraph (1), a participating candidate may
7 withhold not more than \$100,000 from the
8 amount required to be remitted under para-
9 graph (1) if the candidate files a signed affi-
10 davit with the Commission that the candidate
11 will seek certification as a participating can-
12 didate with respect to the next election cycle,
13 except that the candidate may not use any por-
14 tion of the amount withheld until the candidate
15 is certified as a participating candidate with re-
16 spect to that next election cycle. If the can-
17 didate fails to seek certification as a partici-
18 pating candidate prior to the last day of the
19 qualifying period for the next election cycle (as
20 described in section 511), or if the Commission
21 notifies the candidate of the Commission’s de-
22 termination that the candidate does not meet
23 the requirements for certification as a partici-
24 pating candidate with respect to such cycle, the

1 candidate shall immediately remit to the Com-
2 mission the amount withheld.

3 **“SEC. 522. ALLOCATIONS FROM THE FUND.**

4 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall make allo-
5 cations from the Fund under section 521(a)(1) to a par-
6 ticipating candidate—

7 “(1) in the case of amounts provided under
8 subsection (d)(1), after the date on which such can-
9 didate is certified as a participating candidate under
10 section 514;

11 “(2) in the case of a general election after—

12 “(A) the date of the certification of the re-
13 sults of the primary election or the primary
14 runoff election; or

15 “(B) in any case in which there is no pri-
16 mary election, the date the candidate qualifies
17 to be placed on the ballot; and

18 “(3) in the case of a primary runoff election or
19 a general runoff election, after the certification of
20 the results of the primary election or the general
21 election, as the case may be.

22 “(b) METHOD OF PAYMENT.—The Commission shall
23 distribute funds available to participating candidates
24 under this section through the use of an electronic funds
25 exchange or a debit card.

1 “(c) TIMING OF PAYMENT.—The Commission shall,
2 in coordination with the Secretary of the Treasury, take
3 such steps as may be necessary to ensure that the Sec-
4 retary is able to make payments under this section from
5 the Treasury not later than 2 business days after date
6 of the applicable certification as described in subsection
7 (a).

8 “(d) AMOUNTS.—

9 “(1) PRIMARY ELECTION ALLOCATION; INITIAL
10 ALLOCATION.—Except as provided in paragraph (5),
11 the Commission shall make an allocation from the
12 Fund for a primary election to a participating candi-
13 date in an amount equal to 67 percent of the base
14 amount with respect to such participating candidate.

15 “(2) PRIMARY RUNOFF ELECTION ALLOCA-
16 TION.—The Commission shall make an allocation
17 from the Fund for a primary runoff election to a
18 participating candidate in an amount equal to 25
19 percent of the amount the participating candidate
20 was eligible to receive under this section for the pri-
21 mary election.

22 “(3) GENERAL ELECTION ALLOCATION.—Ex-
23 cept as provided in paragraph (5), the Commission
24 shall make an allocation from the Fund for a gen-
25 eral election to a participating candidate in an

1 amount equal to the base amount with respect to
2 such candidate.

3 “(4) GENERAL RUNOFF ELECTION ALLOCA-
4 TION.—The Commission shall make an allocation
5 from the Fund for a general runoff election to a par-
6 ticipating candidate in an amount equal to 25 per-
7 cent of the base amount with respect to such can-
8 didate.

9 “(5) UNCONTESTED ELECTIONS.—

10 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a pri-
11 mary or general election that is an uncontested
12 election, the Commission shall make an alloca-
13 tion from the Fund to a participating candidate
14 for such election in an amount equal to 25 per-
15 cent of the allocation which such candidate
16 would be entitled to under this section for such
17 election if this paragraph did not apply.

18 “(B) UNCONTESTED ELECTION DE-
19 FINED.—For purposes of this subparagraph, an
20 election is uncontested if not more than 1 can-
21 didate has campaign funds (including payments
22 from the Fund) in an amount equal to or great-
23 er than 10 percent of the allocation a partici-
24 pating candidate would be entitled to receive

1 under this section for such election if this para-
2 graph did not apply.

3 “(e) BASE AMOUNT.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise pro-
5 vided in this subsection, the base amount for any
6 candidate is an amount equal to the sum of—

7 “(A) \$750,000; plus

8 “(B) \$150,000 for each congressional dis-
9 trict in the State with respect to which the can-
10 didate is seeking election.

11 “(2) INDEXING.—In each even-numbered year
12 after 2027—

13 “(A) each dollar amount under paragraph
14 (1) shall be increased by the percent difference
15 between the price index (as defined in section
16 315(c)(2)(A)) for the 12 months preceding the
17 beginning of such calendar year and the price
18 index for calendar year 2022;

19 “(B) each dollar amount so increased shall
20 remain in effect for the 2-year period beginning
21 on the first day following the date of the last
22 general election in the year preceding the year
23 in which the amount is increased and ending on
24 the date of the next general election; and

1 “(C) if any amount after adjustment under
2 subparagraph (A) is not a multiple of \$100,
3 such amount shall be rounded to the nearest
4 multiple of \$100.

5 **“SEC. 523. MATCHING PAYMENTS FOR QUALIFIED SMALL**
6 **DOLLAR CONTRIBUTIONS.**

7 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall pay to
8 each participating candidate an amount equal to 600 per-
9 cent of the amount of qualified small dollar contributions
10 received by the candidate from individuals after the date
11 on which such candidate is certified under section 514.

12 “(b) LIMITATION.—The aggregate payments under
13 subsection (a) with respect to any candidate shall not ex-
14 ceed 400 percent of the allocation such candidate is enti-
15 tled to receive for such election under section 522 (deter-
16 mined without regard to subsection (d)(5) thereof).

17 “(c) TIME OF PAYMENT.—The Commission shall
18 make payments under this section not later than 2 busi-
19 ness days after the receipt of a report made under sub-
20 section (d).

21 “(d) REPORTS.—

22 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each participating can-
23 didate shall file reports of receipts of qualified small
24 dollar contributions at such times and in such man-
25 ner as the Commission may by regulations prescribe.

1 “(2) CONTENTS OF REPORTS.—Each report
2 under this subsection shall disclose—

3 “(A) the amount of each qualified small
4 dollar contribution received by the candidate;
5 and

6 “(B) the name, address, and occupation of
7 each individual who made a qualified small dol-
8 lar contribution to the candidate.

9 “(3) FREQUENCY OF REPORTS.—Reports under
10 this subsection shall be made no more frequently
11 than—

12 “(A) once every month until the date that
13 is 90 days before the date of the election; and

14 “(B) once every week after the period de-
15 scribed in subparagraph (A) and until the date
16 of the election.

17 “(4) LIMITATION ON REGULATIONS.—The
18 Commission may not prescribe any regulations with
19 respect to reporting under this subsection with re-
20 spect to any election after the date that is 180 days
21 before the date of such election.

22 “(e) APPEALS.—The Commission shall provide a
23 written explanation with respect to any denial of any pay-
24 ment under this section and shall provide the opportunity

1 for review and reconsideration within 5 business days of
2 such denial.

3 **“SEC. 524. ENHANCED MATCHING SUPPORT.**

4 “(a) IN GENERAL.—In addition to the payments
5 made under section 523, the Commission shall make an
6 additional payment to an eligible candidate under this sec-
7 tion.

8 “(b) ELIGIBILITY.—A candidate is eligible to receive
9 an additional payment under this section if the candidate
10 meets each of the following requirements:

11 “(1) The candidate is on the ballot for the gen-
12 eral election for the office the candidate seeks.

13 “(2) The candidate is certified as a partici-
14 pating candidate under this title with respect to the
15 election.

16 “(3) During the enhanced support qualifying
17 period, the candidate receives qualified small dollar
18 contributions in a total amount of not less than the
19 sum of \$15,000 for each congressional district in the
20 State with respect to which the candidate is seeking
21 election.

22 “(4) During the enhanced support qualifying
23 period, the candidate submits to the Commission a
24 request for the payment which includes—

1 “(A) a statement of the number and
2 amount of qualified small dollar contributions
3 received by the candidate during the enhanced
4 support qualifying period;

5 “(B) a statement of the amount of the
6 payment the candidate anticipates receiving
7 with respect to the request; and

8 “(C) such other information and assur-
9 ances as the Commission may require.

10 “(5) After submitting a request for the addi-
11 tional payment under paragraph (4), the candidate
12 does not submit any other application for an addi-
13 tional payment under this title.

14 “(c) AMOUNT.—

15 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),
16 the amount of the additional payment made to an el-
17 igible candidate under this subtitle shall be an
18 amount equal to 50 percent of—

19 “(A) the amount of the payment made to
20 the candidate under section 523 with respect to
21 the qualified small dollar contributions which
22 are received by the candidate during the en-
23 hanced support qualifying period (as included in
24 the request submitted by the candidate under
25 (b)(4)(A)); or

1 “(B) in the case of a candidate who is not
2 eligible to receive a payment under section 523
3 with respect to such qualified small dollar con-
4 tributions because the candidate has reached
5 the limit on the aggregate amount of payments
6 under section 523, the amount of the payment
7 which would have been made to the candidate
8 under section 523 with respect to such qualified
9 small dollar contributions if the candidate had
10 not reached such limit.

11 “(2) LIMIT.—The amount of the additional
12 payment determined under paragraph (1) with re-
13 spect to a candidate may not exceed the sum of
14 \$150,000 for each congressional district in the State
15 with respect to which the candidate is seeking elec-
16 tion.

17 “(3) NO EFFECT ON AGGREGATE LIMIT.—The
18 amount of the additional payment made to a can-
19 didate under this section shall not be included in de-
20 termining the aggregate amount of payments made
21 to a participating candidate with respect to an elec-
22 tion cycle under section 523.

23 **“SEC. 525. POLITICAL ADVERTISING VOUCHERS.**

24 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall establish
25 and administer a voucher program for the purchase of

1 airtime on broadcasting stations for political advertise-
2 ments in accordance with the provisions of this section.

3 “(b) CANDIDATES.—The Commission shall only dis-
4 burse vouchers under the program established under sub-
5 section (a) to participants certified pursuant to section
6 514 who have agreed in writing to keep and furnish to
7 the Commission such records, books, and other informa-
8 tion as it may require.

9 “(c) AMOUNTS.—The Commission shall disburse
10 vouchers to each candidate certified under subsection (b)
11 in an aggregate amount equal to \$100,000 multiplied by
12 the number of congressional districts in the State with re-
13 spect to which such candidate is running for office.

14 “(d) USE.—

15 “(1) EXCLUSIVE USE.—Vouchers disbursed by
16 the Commission under this section may be used only
17 for the purchase of broadcast airtime for political
18 advertisements relating to a general election for the
19 office of Senate by the participating candidate to
20 which the vouchers were disbursed, except that—

21 “(A) a candidate may exchange vouchers
22 with a political party under paragraph (2); and

23 “(B) a political party may use vouchers
24 only to purchase broadcast airtime for political
25 advertisements for generic party advertising (as

1 defined by the Commission in regulations), to
2 support candidates for State or local office in a
3 general election, or to support participating
4 candidates of the party in a general election for
5 Federal office, but only if it discloses the value
6 of the voucher used as an expenditure under
7 section 315(d).

8 “(2) EXCHANGE WITH POLITICAL PARTY COM-
9 MITTEE.—

10 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A participating can-
11 didate who receives a voucher under this section
12 may transfer the right to use all or a portion
13 of the value of the voucher to a committee of
14 the political party of which the individual is a
15 candidate (or, in the case of a participating
16 candidate who is not a member of any political
17 party, to a committee of the political party of
18 that candidate’s choice) in exchange for money
19 in an amount equal to the cash value of the
20 voucher or portion exchanged.

21 “(B) CONTINUATION OF CANDIDATE OBLI-
22 GATIONS.—The transfer of a voucher, in whole
23 or in part, to a political party committee under
24 this paragraph does not release the candidate
25 from any obligation under the agreement made

1 under subsection (b) or otherwise modify that
2 agreement or its application to that candidate.

3 “(C) PARTY COMMITTEE OBLIGATIONS.—
4 Any political party committee to which a vouch-
5 er or portion thereof is transferred under sub-
6 paragraph (A)—

7 “(i) shall account fully, in accordance
8 with such requirements as the Commission
9 may establish, for the receipt of the vouch-
10 er; and

11 “(ii) may not use the transferred
12 voucher or portion thereof for any purpose
13 other than a purpose described in para-
14 graph (1)(B).

15 “(D) VOUCHER AS A CONTRIBUTION
16 UNDER FECA.—If a candidate transfers a
17 voucher or any portion thereof to a political
18 party committee under subparagraph (A)—

19 “(i) the value of the voucher or por-
20 tion thereof transferred shall be treated as
21 a contribution from the candidate to the
22 committee, and from the committee to the
23 candidate, for purposes of sections 302
24 and 304;

1 “(ii) the committee may, in exchange,
2 provide to the candidate only funds subject
3 to the prohibitions, limitations, and report-
4 ing requirements of title III of this Act;
5 and

6 “(iii) the amount, if identified as a
7 ‘voucher exchange’, shall not be considered
8 a contribution for the purposes of sections
9 315 and 513.

10 “(e) VALUE; ACCEPTANCE; REDEMPTION.—

11 “(1) VOUCHER.—Each voucher disbursed by
12 the Commission under this section shall have a value
13 in dollars, redeemable upon presentation to the
14 Commission, together with such documentation and
15 other information as the Commission may require,
16 for the purchase of broadcast airtime for political
17 advertisements in accordance with this section.

18 “(2) ACCEPTANCE.—A broadcasting station
19 shall accept vouchers in payment for the purchase of
20 broadcast airtime for political advertisements in ac-
21 cordance with this section.

22 “(3) REDEMPTION.—The Commission shall re-
23 deem vouchers accepted by broadcasting stations
24 under paragraph (2) upon presentation, subject to
25 such documentation, verification, accounting, and

1 application requirements as the Commission may im-
2 pose to ensure the accuracy and integrity of the
3 voucher redemption system.

4 “(4) EXPIRATION.—

5 “(A) CANDIDATES.—A voucher may only
6 be used to pay for broadcast airtime for polit-
7 ical advertisements to be broadcast before mid-
8 night on the day before the date of the Federal
9 election in connection with which it was issued
10 and shall be null and void for any other use or
11 purpose.

12 “(B) EXCEPTION FOR POLITICAL PARTY
13 COMMITTEES.—A voucher held by a political
14 party committee may be used to pay for broad-
15 cast airtime for political advertisements to be
16 broadcast before midnight on December 31st of
17 the odd-numbered year following the year in
18 which the voucher was issued by the Commis-
19 sion.

20 “(5) VOUCHER AS EXPENDITURE UNDER
21 FECA.—The use of a voucher to purchase broadcast
22 airtime constitutes an expenditure as defined in sec-
23 tion 301(9)(A).

24 “(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 “(1) BROADCASTING STATION.—The term
2 ‘broadcasting station’ has the meaning given that
3 term by section 315(f)(1) of the Communications
4 Act of 1934.

5 “(2) POLITICAL PARTY.—The term ‘political
6 party’ means a major party or a minor party as de-
7 fined in section 9002 (3) or (4) of the Internal Rev-
8 enue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. 9002 (3) or (4)).

9 **“Subtitle D—Administrative**
10 **Provisions**

11 **“SEC. 531. DUTIES OF THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMIS-**
12 **SION.**

13 “(a) DUTIES AND POWERS.—

14 “(1) ADMINISTRATION.—The Commission shall
15 have the power to administer the provisions of this
16 title and shall prescribe regulations to carry out the
17 purposes of this title, including regulations—

18 “(A) to establish procedures for—

19 “(i) verifying the amount of valid
20 qualifying contributions with respect to a
21 candidate;

22 “(ii) effectively and efficiently moni-
23 toring and enforcing the limits on the rais-
24 ing of qualified small dollar contributions;

1 “(iii) monitoring the raising of quali-
2 fying multicandidate political committee
3 contributions through effectively and effi-
4 ciently monitoring and enforcing the limits
5 on individual contributions to qualified ac-
6 counts of multicandidate political commit-
7 tees;

8 “(iv) effectively and efficiently moni-
9 toring and enforcing the limits on the use
10 of personal funds by participating can-
11 didates;

12 “(v) monitoring the use of allocations
13 from the Fund and matching contributions
14 under this title through audits or other
15 mechanisms; and

16 “(vi) the administration of the vouch-
17 er program under section 525; and

18 “(B) regarding the conduct of debates in a
19 manner consistent with the best practices of
20 States that provide public financing for elec-
21 tions.

22 “(2) REVIEW OF FAIR ELECTIONS FINANC-
23 ING.—

24 “(A) IN GENERAL.—After each general
25 election for Federal office, the Commission shall

1 conduct a comprehensive review of the Fair
2 Elections financing program under this title, in-
3 cluding—

4 “(i) the maximum dollar amount of
5 qualified small dollar contributions under
6 section 501(13);

7 “(ii) the maximum and minimum dol-
8 lar amounts for qualifying contributions
9 under section 501(12);

10 “(iii) the number and value of quali-
11 fying contributions a candidate is required
12 to obtain under section 512 to qualify for
13 allocations from the Fund;

14 “(iv) the amount of allocations from
15 the Fund that candidates may receive
16 under section 522;

17 “(v) the maximum amount of match-
18 ing contributions a candidate may receive
19 under section 523;

20 “(vi) the maximum amount of en-
21 hanced matching contributions a candidate
22 may receive under section 524;

23 “(vii) the amount and usage of vouch-
24 ers under section 525;

1 “(viii) the overall satisfaction of par-
2 ticipating candidates and the American
3 public with the program; and

4 “(ix) such other matters relating to fi-
5 nancing of Senate campaigns as the Com-
6 mission determines are appropriate.

7 “(B) CRITERIA FOR REVIEW.—In con-
8 ducting the review under subparagraph (A), the
9 Commission shall consider the following:

10 “(i) QUALIFYING CONTRIBUTIONS
11 AND QUALIFIED SMALL DOLLAR CON-
12 TRIBUTIONS.—The Commission shall con-
13 sider whether the number and dollar
14 amount of qualifying contributions re-
15 quired and maximum dollar amount for
16 such qualifying contributions and qualified
17 small dollar contributions strikes a balance
18 regarding the importance of voter involve-
19 ment, the need to assure adequate incen-
20 tives for participating, and fiscal responsi-
21 bility, taking into consideration the num-
22 ber of primary and general election partici-
23 pating candidates, the electoral perform-
24 ance of those candidates, program cost,

1 and any other information the Commission
2 determines is appropriate.

3 “(ii) REVIEW OF PROGRAM BENE-
4 FITS.—The Commission shall consider
5 whether the totality of the amount of
6 funds allowed to be raised by participating
7 candidates (including through qualifying
8 contributions and small dollar contribu-
9 tions), allocations from the Fund under
10 section 522, matching contributions under
11 section 523, enhanced matching contribu-
12 tions under section 524, and vouchers
13 under section 525 are sufficient for voters
14 in each State to learn about the candidates
15 to cast an informed vote, taking into ac-
16 count the historic amount of spending by
17 winning candidates, media costs, primary
18 election dates, and any other information
19 the Commission determines is appropriate.

20 “(C) RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ADJUST-
21 MENT OF AMOUNTS.—Based on the review con-
22 ducted under subparagraph (A), the Commis-
23 sion shall make recommendations to Congress
24 for any adjustment of the following amounts:

1 “(i) The maximum dollar amount of
2 qualified small dollar contributions under
3 section 501(13)(C).

4 “(ii) The maximum and minimum dol-
5 lar amounts for qualifying contributions
6 under section 501(12)(A).

7 “(iii) The number and value of quali-
8 fying contributions a candidate is required
9 to obtain under section 512(a)(1).

10 “(iv) The base amount for candidates
11 under section 522(d).

12 “(v) The maximum amount of match-
13 ing contributions a candidate may receive
14 under section 523(b).

15 “(vi) The maximum amount of en-
16 hanced matching contributions a candidate
17 may receive under section 524(c).

18 “(vii) The dollar amount for vouchers
19 under section 525(c).

20 “(D) REPORT.—Not later than March 30
21 following any general election for Federal office,
22 the Commission shall submit a report to Con-
23 gress on the review conducted under subpara-
24 graph (A) and any recommendations developed
25 under subparagraph (C). Such report shall con-

1 tain a detailed statement of the findings, con-
2 clusions, and recommendations of the Commis-
3 sion based on such review.

4 “(b) REPORTS.—Not later than March 30, 2026, and
5 every 2 years thereafter, the Commission shall submit to
6 the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration a re-
7 port documenting, evaluating, and making recommenda-
8 tions relating to the administrative implementation and
9 enforcement of the provisions of this title.

10 “(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
11 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are nec-
12 essary to carry out the purposes of this subtitle.

13 **“SEC. 532. VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES.**

14 “(a) CIVIL PENALTY FOR VIOLATION OF CONTRIBU-
15 TION AND EXPENDITURE REQUIREMENTS.—If a can-
16 didate who has been certified as a participating candidate
17 under section 514 accepts a contribution or makes an ex-
18 penditure that is prohibited under section 513, the Com-
19 mission shall assess a civil penalty against the candidate
20 in an amount that is not more than 3 times the amount
21 of the contribution or expenditure. Any amounts collected
22 under this subsection shall be deposited into the Fund.

23 “(b) REPAYMENT FOR IMPROPER USE OF FREEDOM
24 FROM INFLUENCE FUND.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Commission deter-
2 mines that any benefit made available to a partici-
3 pating candidate under this title was not used as
4 provided for in this title or that a participating can-
5 didate has violated any of the dates for remission of
6 funds contained in this title, the Commission shall
7 so notify the candidate and the candidate shall pay
8 to the Fund an amount equal to—

9 “(A) the amount of benefits so used or not
10 remitted, as appropriate; and

11 “(B) interest on any such amounts (at a
12 rate determined by the Commission).

13 “(2) OTHER ACTION NOT PRECLUDED.—Any
14 action by the Commission in accordance with this
15 subsection shall not preclude enforcement pro-
16 ceedings by the Commission in accordance with sec-
17 tion 309(a), including a referral by the Commission
18 to the Attorney General in the case of an apparent
19 knowing and willful violation of this title.”.

20 **SEC. 202. PROHIBITION ON JOINT FUNDRAISING COMMIT-**
21 **TEES.**

22 Section 302(e) of the Federal Election Campaign Act
23 of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30102(e)) is amended by adding at
24 the end the following new paragraph:

1 “(6) No authorized committee of a participating
2 candidate (as defined in section 501) may establish
3 a joint fundraising committee with a political com-
4 mittee other than an authorized committee of a can-
5 didate.”.

6 **SEC. 203. EXCEPTION TO LIMITATION ON COORDINATED**
7 **EXPENDITURES BY POLITICAL PARTY COM-**
8 **MITTEES WITH PARTICIPATING CANDIDATES.**

9 Section 315(d) of the Federal Election Campaign Act
10 of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30116(d)) is amended—

11 (1) in paragraph (3)(A), by striking “in the
12 case of” and inserting “except as provided in para-
13 graph (6), in the case of”; and

14 (2) by adding at the end the following new
15 paragraph:

16 “(6)(A) The limitation under paragraph (3)(A)
17 shall not apply with respect to any expenditure from
18 a qualified political party-participating candidate co-
19 ordinated expenditure fund.

20 “(B) In this paragraph, the term ‘qualified po-
21 litical party-participating candidate coordinated ex-
22 penditure fund’ means a fund established by the na-
23 tional committee of a political party, or a State com-
24 mittee of a political party, including any subordinate
25 committee of a State committee, for purposes of

1 making expenditures in connection with the general
 2 election campaign of a candidate for election to the
 3 office of Senator who is a participating candidate (as
 4 defined in section 501), that only accepts qualified
 5 coordinated expenditure contributions.

6 “(C) In this paragraph, the term ‘qualified co-
 7 ordinated expenditure contribution’ means, with re-
 8 spect to the general election campaign of a candidate
 9 for election to the office of Senator who is a partici-
 10 pating candidate (as defined in section 501), any
 11 contribution (or series of contributions)—

12 “(i) which is made by an individual who is
 13 not prohibited from making a contribution
 14 under this Act; and

15 “(ii) the aggregate amount of which does
 16 not exceed \$500 per election.”.

17 **TITLE III—RESPONSIBILITIES**
 18 **OF THE FEDERAL ELECTION**
 19 **COMMISSION**

20 **SEC. 301. PETITION FOR CERTIORARI.**

21 Section 307(a)(6) of the Federal Election Campaign
 22 Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30107(a)(6)) is amended by in-
 23 serting “(including a proceeding before the Supreme
 24 Court on certiorari)” after “appeal”.

1 **SEC. 302. ELECTRONIC FILING OF FEC REPORTS.**

2 Section 304(a)(11) of the Federal Election Campaign
3 Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30104(a)(11)) is amended—

4 (1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “under
5 this Act—” and all that follows and inserting
6 “under this Act shall be required to maintain and
7 file such designation, statement, or report in elec-
8 tronic form accessible by computers.”;

9 (2) in subparagraph (B), by striking “48
10 hours” and all that follows through “filed electroni-
11 cally)” and inserting “24 hours”; and

12 (3) by striking subparagraph (D).

13 **TITLE IV—REVENUE**
14 **PROVISIONS**

15 **SEC. 401. FREEDOM FROM INFLUENCE FUND REVENUE.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Internal Revenue Code of
17 1986 is amended by inserting after chapter 36 the fol-
18 lowing new chapter:

19 **“CHAPTER 37—TAX ON PAYMENTS PURSU-**
20 **ANT TO CERTAIN GOVERNMENT CON-**
21 **TRACTS**

“Sec. 4501. Imposition of tax.

22 **“SEC. 4501. IMPOSITION OF TAX.**

23 “(a) TAX IMPOSED.—There is hereby imposed on any
24 payment made to a qualified person pursuant to a contract

1 with the Government of the United States a tax equal to
2 0.50 percent of the amount paid.

3 “(b) LIMITATION.—The aggregate amount of tax im-
4 posed per contract under subsection (a) for any calendar
5 year shall not exceed \$500,000.

6 “(c) QUALIFIED PERSON.—For purposes of this sec-
7 tion, the term ‘qualified person’ means any person
8 which—

9 “(1) is not a State or local government, a for-
10 eign nation, or an organization described in section
11 501(c)(3) which is exempt from taxation under sec-
12 tion 501(a), and

13 “(2) has a contract with the Government of the
14 United States with a value in excess of \$10,000,000.

15 “(d) PAYMENT OF TAX.—The tax imposed by this
16 section shall be paid by the person receiving such payment.

17 “(e) USE OF REVENUE GENERATED BY TAX.—It is
18 the sense of the Senate that amounts equivalent to the
19 revenue generated by the tax imposed under this chapter
20 should be appropriated for the financing of a Freedom
21 From Influence Fund and used for the public financing
22 of Senate elections.”.

23 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of chap-
24 ters of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by

1 inserting after the item relating to chapter 36 the fol-
 2 lowing:

“CHAPTER 37—TAX ON PAYMENTS PURSUANT TO CERTAIN GOVERNMENT
 CONTRACTS”.

3 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
 4 this section shall apply to contracts entered into after the
 5 date of the enactment of this Act.

6 **TITLE V—MISCELLANEOUS** 7 **PROVISIONS**

8 **SEC. 501. SEVERABILITY.**

9 If any provision of this Act or amendment made by
 10 this Act, or the application of a provision or amendment
 11 to any person or circumstance, is held to be unconstitu-
 12 tional, the remainder of this Act and amendments made
 13 by this Act, and the application of the provisions and
 14 amendment to any person or circumstance, shall not be
 15 affected by the holding.

16 **SEC. 502. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

17 (a) IN GENERAL.—Except as may otherwise be pro-
 18 vided in this Act and in the amendments made by this
 19 Act, this Act and the amendments made by this Act shall
 20 apply with respect to elections occurring during 2028 or
 21 any succeeding year, without regard to whether or not the
 22 Federal Election Commission has promulgated the final
 23 regulations necessary to carry out this Act and the amend-

1 ments made by this Act by the deadline set forth in sub-
2 section (b).

3 (b) DEADLINE FOR REGULATIONS.—Not later than
4 June 30, 2026, the Federal Election Commission shall
5 promulgate such regulations as may be necessary to carry
6 out this Act and the amendments made by this Act.

○