

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4947

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit former Members of Congress from engaging in lobbying contacts.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 6, 2021

Mr. CICILLINE (for himself and Mr. GOLDEN) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit former Members of Congress from engaging in lobbying contacts.

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. PROHIBITION ON LOBBYING CONTACTS BY**
4 **FORMER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 207(e) of title 18, United
6 States Code, is amended as follows:

7 (1) Paragraph (1) is amended to read as fol-
8 lows:

9 “(1) MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Any person who is a Senator or a Member of the House of Representatives and who, after that person leaves office, knowingly makes any lobbying contact to a covered executive branch official, or to any Member, officer, or employee of either House of Congress, shall be punished as provided in section 216 of this title.

“(B) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph, the terms ‘lobbying contact’ and ‘covered executive branch official’ have the meanings given those terms in section 3 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1602).”.

(2) Paragraph (2) is amended—

(A) by striking “(2) Any person” and inserting the following:

“(2) OFFICERS AND CERTAIN STAFF.—

“(A) OFFICERS AND STAFF OF THE SENATE.—Any person”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) OFFICERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—(i) Any person who is an elected officer of the House of Representatives and who, within 1 year after that person leaves office, knowingly makes, with the intent to in-

1 fluence, any communication to or appearance
2 before any of the persons described in clause
3 (ii), on behalf of any other person (except the
4 United States) in connection with any matter
5 on which such elected officer seeks action by a
6 Member, officer, or employee of either House of
7 Congress, in his or her official capacity, shall be
8 punished as provided in section 216 of this title.

9 “(ii) The persons referred to in clause (i)
10 with respect to appearances or communications
11 by a former elected officer are any Member, of-
12 ficer, or employee of the House of Representa-
13 tives.”.

14 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
15 subsection (a) shall apply to individuals who leave office
16 or employment to which such amendments apply on or
17 after the date of adjournment of the second session of the
18 One Hundred Seventeenth Congress sine die or December
19 31, 2021, whichever date is earlier.

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