117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7133

To amend the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 to require certain lobbyists to report certain contacts with agencies within 48 hours, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 17, 2022

Mr. O'HALLERAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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A BILL

To amend the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 to require certain lobbyists to report certain contacts with agencies within 48 hours, 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 "Closing Loopholes,

5   Ending Anonymous Revolving Doors Act" or the

6   "CLEAR Doors Act".

1 **SEC. 2. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.**

2 (a) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—Section 5 of Lob-

3 bying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1604) is amend-

4 ed—

5 (1) by redesignating subsection (e) as sub-

6 section (f); and

7 (2) by inserting after subsection (d) the fol-

8 lowing new subsection:

9 "(e) 48-HOUR REPORTS.—

10 "(1) IN GENERAL.—No later than 48 hours

11 after a lobbyist engages in special lobbying activities,

12 the registrant involved shall file a report with the

13 Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House

14 of Representatives on such activities.

15 "(2) CONTENTS OF REPORT.—Each report filed

16 under paragraph (1) shall contain the following

17 items:

18 "(A) The name of the registrant.

19 "(B) The name of the client.

20 "(C) The name of the covered executive

21 branch official of the agency.

22 "(D) A description of the issue discussed

23 before such agency official.

24 "(E) The date on which such lobbying ac-

25 tivities occurred.

1 ''(3) SPECIAL RULE FOR NEW REGISTRANTS.—

2 If a lobbyist engages in special lobbying activities

3 prior to the registration of the lobbyist (or, if appli-

4 cable, the organization employing such lobbyist) with

5 the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the

6 House of Representatives under section 4(a), the

7 lobbyist or organization shall register with the Sec-

8 retary and the Clerk under such section not later

9 than 48 hours after the lobbyist or organization en-

10 gages in such activities.

11 ''(4) SPECIAL LOBBYING ACTIVITIES DE-

12 FINED.—In this subsection, the term 'special lob-

13 bying activities' means any lobbying activity con-

14 sisting of a lobbying contact made by an employee

15 of a client with a covered executive branch official of

16 an agency of which such lobbyist was formerly em-

17 ployed during the 4–year period that ends on the

18 date of such contact.''.

19 (b) LOBBYIST DEFINITION.—Section 3(10) of the

20 Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1602(10)) is

21 amended to read as follows:

22 ''(10) LOBBYIST.—

23 ''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in

24 subparagraph (B), term 'lobbyist' means any

25 individual who is employed or retained by a cli-

1 ent for financial or other compensation for serv-

2 ices that include more than one lobbying con-

3 tact.

4 "(B) EXCEPTION.—

5 "(i) 20 PERCENT RULE.—Except as

6 provided in clause (ii), subparagraph (A)

7 does not apply to an individual with re-

8 spect to a client if the individual's lobbying

9 activities constitute less than 20 percent of

10 the time engaged in the services provided

11 by such individual to that client over a 3–

12 month period.

13 "(ii) SPECIAL LOBBYING ACTIVITIES

14 EXCEPTION.—Clause (i) does not apply to

15 special lobbying activities under section

16 5(e).".

17 (c) CONFORMING AND TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.—

18 (1) LOBBYIST REGISTRATION.—Section 4(a)(1)

19 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C.

20 1603(a)(1)) is amended by striking "No later than"

21 and inserting "Except as provided in section 5(e)(3),

22 no later than".

23 (2) CROSS-REFERENCE.—Section 6(a)(4) of the

24 Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C.

1   1605(a)(4)) is amended by striking "section 5(e)"

2   and inserting "section 5(f)".

3   (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by

4 this section shall apply to lobbying activities occurring on

5 or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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