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Joan Claybrook, President

Legislative Accountability and Transparency Act of 2007 (S. 1)

Summary of S. 1 and Current Amendments

Reid/McConnell have introduced S. 1, a duplicate of the Senate Republican bill passed by a vote of 90-8 last year.

Amendments

Kerry-Salazar SA 1:

Would toughen the penalties for breaches of ethical conduct including the denial of retirement benefits for those convicted of crimes.

Status: Submitted 1/09/07

Leahy-Pryor submitted SA 2:

Intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1.

Status: submitted 1/09/07, ordered to lie on table

Reid-McConnell substitute amendment SA 3 :

Calls for even more disclosures and prohibitions for staffers seeking private employment with lobbyists. This also would end dead of night changes to conference reports and will ban changing a conference report once it has been signed.

Status: submitted 1/09/07

Reid 2nd degree amendment (with Durbin, Salazar, Obama) SA 4:

*Extends gift ban to companies and organizations that employ lobbyists.

*Extends travel ban to paid trips from companies and organizations that employ or retain lobbyists (with some “commonsense” exceptions).

*Requires Members to pay full charter fare when using private planes.

Status; submitted 1/09/07

Vitter's Amendments number 5, 6 and 7 to amendment SA 3:

5.) Calls on Indian Tribes participation in the political process and lobbying to be regulated in the same way Unions and corporations are.

6.) Would Ban immediate family members of politicians from being hired by the politician's campaign or leadership PAC.

7.) Would increase the penalties for knowingly and willfully hiding information that is supposed to be public.

Status: submitted 1/09/07

Buacus SA 8:

Would prohibit a politician or a politician's spouse from using a charity or a 501(c)(3) for personal or political gain. It would prohibit a politician from accepting money from any group that employs the politician's immediate family or staff and bans contribution from groups that receives money from a group that employs the politician's immediate family or staff.

Status: submitted 1/09/07

Vitter-Inhofe SA-9:

An Amendment to SA-3 that would impose greater lobbying restrictions on spouses. Spouses cannot serve as registered lobbyists unless they had been serving as a lobbyist at least 1 year prior to the election of that member of Congress.

Status: submitted 1/10/07

Vitter SA-10:

An Amendment to SA-3 that would increase the penalty for failure to comply with lobbying disclosure requirements from \$100,000 to \$200,000.

Status: submitted 1/10/07

DeMint-Cornyn SA-11:

An Amendment to SA-3 that would strengthen earmark reform. Congress cannot consider a bill or joint resolution reported by a committee unless the report includes a list of congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, and limited tariff benefits in the bill.

Status: submitted 1/10/07

DeMint-Obama SA-12:

An Amendment to SA-3 that would clarify that earmarks added to a conference report that are not considered by the Senate or the House of Representatives are out of scope.

Status: 1/10/07, proposed on floor

DeMint SA-13:

An Amendment to SA-3 that would prevent government shutdowns by continuing appropriations.

Status: 1/10/07, proposed on floor

DeMint SA-14:

An Amendment to SA-3 that would protect individuals from having their money involuntarily collected and used for lobbying by a labor organization.

Status: 1/10/07, proposed on floor

Salazar-Obama SA-15:

An Amendment to SA-3 that would require that each committee and subcommittee make available by the Internet a video recording, audio recording, or transcript of any meeting not later than 14 business days after the meeting occurs.

Status: Senate amendment agreed to by Unanimous Consent.

Stevens SA-16:

An Amendment to SA-4 To permit certain travel w/in State. If there is only one flight available on a given day for travel within a Member's state, the Member may travel in a privately-owned aircraft, provided that there is no conflict of interest and that the trip is approved by the Select Committee on Ethics. Members must reimburse provider for ticket.

Status: Withdrawn 1/10/07

Judd SA-17:

Would establish a legislative line-item veto to curb wasteful spending.

Status: submitted 1/10/07

Coleman SA-18:

Would provide greater transparency in the legislative process. Calls for the establishment of a public website to disclose reimbursed travel expenses.

Status: submitted 1/10/2007

McCain SA-19:

A Member, officer, or employee who travels on an aircraft operated or paid for by a carrier not licensed by the FAA must file a report (including date, destination, purpose, owner of carrier, and charter rate paid) with the Secretary of the Senate not later than 60 days after the date on which such flight is taken.

Status: submitted 1/10/07

Bennett-McConnell SA-20:

Would strike section 220 of the amendment (relating to disclosure of paid efforts to stimulate grassroots lobbying).

Status: submitted 1/10/07

Sanders SA-21:

Aims at greater transparency. Comptroller General of the United States must submit a report to Congress detailing the number, type, and quantity of contributions made to Members of the Senate or the House of Representatives from a PAC associated with:

- (a) a pharmaceutical company or a trade assn. for a pharma. co.

- (b) a bank or financial services co., a company in the credit card industry or trade org. for credit card co.
- (c) a company in oil, natural gas, nuclear, or coal industry
- (d) US Chamber of Commerce, the Ntl. Assn. of Manufacturers, the Business Roundtable, the National Federation of Independent Business, the Emergency Committee for American Trade, or any member company of such entities
- (e) any other free trade org. funded primarily by corporate entities

Status: submitted 1/10/07

Cardin SA-22:

An amendment to SA-3 requires the publication of Senate materials within 48 hours in stead of the current time frame of “as soon as possible.”

Status: submitted 1/11/07, ordered to lie on table

Cornyn SA-23:

Deals with Notice of consideration

Status: submitted 1/11/07, ordered to lie on table

Ensign SA-24:

An amendment to SA-3 3 allows for a point of order to be called by any Senator against any item contained in a conference report that includes or consists of any matter not committed to the conferees by either House.

Status: submitted 1/11/07

Ensign SA-25:

An amendment to SA-3 would ensure full funding for the Department of Defense within the regular appropriations process, to limit the reliance of the Department of Defense on supplemental appropriations bills, and to improve the integrity of the Congressional budget process

Status: submitted 1/11/07

Cornyn SA-26:

An Amendment to SA-3 requires the disclosure of all earmarks in any bill, the Senate supporter of the earmark, the budgetary impact of the earmark and the government purpose of the earmark before any bill may be considered.

Status: submitted 1/11/07

Cornyn SA-27:

An Amendment to SA-3 call for a 3 day notice to every Senator before any matter is taken up and for the public publication of the text of any matter before the Senate takes up the issue.

Status: submitted 1/11/07

McCain (w/ Feingold and Graham)SA-28:

An Amendment to SA-3 requires that conference reports be kept debatable unless such rules are waived by a super majority of 3/5.

Status: Submitted 1/11/07

McCain (w/ Feingold and Graham)SA-29:

Requires that conference reports be kept debatable, unless such rules are waived by a super majority of 3/5.

Status: Submitted 1/11/07

Lieberman (w/ Collins, Obama, McCain, Feingold, Kerry and Carpar) SA-30:

An Amendment to SA-3 would create an office of public integrity.

Status: submitted 1/11/07

Feingold (w/ Obama) SA-31:

Calls for the punishment of Members of Congress who engage in lobbying “activity” within 2 years of leaving their position in Congress.

Status: submitted 1/11/07, ordered to lie on table

Feingold (w/ Obama) SA-32:

Extends the cooling off period from 1 to 2 years for members of congress seeking to engage in lobbying “activities” (this one is the correct version as it properly extends the cooling off period from 1 to 2 years).

Status: submitted 1/11/07, ordered to lie on table

Feingold (w/ Obama) SA-33:

Denies former Member’s their privileges if they are a registered lobbyists.

Status: submitted 1/11/07, ordered to lie on table

Feingold (w/ Obama) SA-34:

Requires electronic filing of elections reports by Senate Candidates.

Status: submitted 1/11/07, ordered to lie on table

Martinez SA-35:

Creates criteria for the use of earmarks and out right bans earmarks from being used to fund certain kinds of grants.

Submitted: submitted 1/11/07

Durbin SA-36:

An amendment and any instruction accompanying a motion to recommit shall be reduced to writing and copied and provided by the clerk to the desks of the Majority Leader and the Minority Leader and shall be read before being debated.

Status: submitted 1/11/07

Thune (w/ McConnell, Feinstein, Bennett, Liberman, Collins, Obama, Salazar and Durbin) SA-37:

An amendment to SA-3 requires the disclosure of political activity by the recipient of any federal award.

Status: submitted 1/11/07

Feinstein (w/ Bennett) SA-38:

An amendment to SA-3 a Member, officer or, employee may accept an offer of free attendance at a convention, conference, symposium, forum, panel discussion, dinner event, site visit, viewing, reception, or similar event, provided by a sponsor of the event, so long as the value does not exceed \$50.

Status: submitted 1/11/07

Coleman SA-39:

The Clerk of the House of Representatives shall each establish a publicly available website that contains information on all officially related congressional travel that is subject to disclosure under the gift rules of the Senate

Status: submitted 1/11/07

Stevens SA-40:

An amendment to SA-4 Allows for an exception to the ban on the use of private flights if there is only one flight scheduled for that day and the flight is entirely within the state.

Status: withdrawn 1/11/07

Obama (w/ Feingold) SA-41:

Requires quarterly filing of reports with the Senate Clerk by lobbyists regarding their activities.

Status: submitted 1/11/07, ordered to lie on table

Feinstein (w/ Rockefeller) SA-42:

An amendment to SA-3 requires the disclosure of earmarks that are placed in the classified portion of a bill.

Status: submitted 1/11/07