

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 345

To require Members of Congress and their spouses and dependent children to place certain assets into blind trusts, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 12, 2023

Ms. SPANBERGER (for herself, Mr. ROY, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. CROW, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. GOLDEN of Maine, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. KILMER, Mrs. KIM of California, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. MENG, Mr. NADLER, Mr. PAPPAS, Ms. PEREZ, Mr. PERRY, Mr. PHILLIPS, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. PORTER, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SESSIONS, Ms. SLOTKIN, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. TITUS, Mr. TONKO, Ms. WILD, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, and Mr. MAGAZINER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration

A BILL

To require Members of Congress and their spouses and dependent children to place certain assets into blind trusts, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Transparent Represent-
3 tation Upholding Service and Trust in Congress Act” or
4 the “TRUST in Congress Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. PLACEMENT OF CERTAIN ASSETS OF MEMBERS OF**
6 **CONGRESS AND THEIR SPOUSES AND DE-**
7 **PENDENT CHILDREN IN BLIND TRUST.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—

9 (1) MEMBERS OCCUPYING OFFICE ON DATE OF
10 ENACTMENT.—Not later than 90 days after the date
11 of enactment of this Act, a Member of Congress and
12 any spouse or dependent child of such Member shall
13 place any covered investment owned by such Mem-
14 ber, spouse, or dependent child into a qualified blind
15 trust.

16 (2) MEMBERS ASSUMING OFFICE AFTER DATE
17 OF ENACTMENT.—Not later than 90 days after the
18 date an individual becomes a Member of Congress
19 after the date of enactment of this Act, such indi-
20 vidual and any spouse or dependent child of such in-
21 dividual shall place any covered investment owned by
22 such individual, spouse, or dependent child into a
23 qualified blind trust.

24 (3) MINGLING OF ASSETS.—A spouse or de-
25 pendent child of a Member of Congress may place

1 a covered investment in a qualified blind trust estab-
2 lished by such Member under paragraph (1) or (2).

3 (4) ASSETS UPON SEPARATION.—A Member of
4 Congress and any spouse or dependent child of such
5 Member may not dissolve any qualified blind trust in
6 which a covered investment has been placed pursu-
7 ant to paragraph (1) or (2), or otherwise control
8 such an investment, until the date that is 180 days
9 after the date such Member ceases to be a Member
10 of Congress.

11 (b) ACCOUNTABILITY.—

12 (1) MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE.—A Member of
13 Congress who is a Member of the House of Rep-
14 resentatives shall—

15 (A) not later than 15 days after the date
16 a qualified blind trust is established under sub-
17 section (a), certify to the Clerk of the House of
18 Representatives that such trust has been estab-
19 lished and that any covered investment owned
20 by such Member or a spouse or dependent child
21 of such Member has been placed in such trust;
22 or

23 (B) certify to the Clerk that such Member
24 or a spouse or dependent child of such Member
25 does not own any covered investment.

1 (2) MEMBERS OF THE SENATE.—A Member of
2 Congress who is a Senator shall—

3 (A) not later than 15 days after the date
4 a qualified blind trust is established under sub-
5 section (a), certify to the Secretary of the Sen-
6 ate that such trust has been established and
7 that any covered investment owned by such
8 Member or a spouse or dependent child of such
9 Member has been placed in such trust; or

10 (B) certify to the Secretary that such
11 Member or a spouse or dependent child of such
12 Member does not own any covered investment.

13 (3) REPORT.—The Clerk of the House of Rep-
14 resentatives and the Secretary of the Senate shall
15 make available on the public website of the Clerk
16 and the Secretary, respectively, any certification
17 made under paragraph (1) or (2).

18 (c) EXCEPTION.—A spouse or dependent child who
19 receives compensation from their primary occupation
20 through any covered investment shall not be required to
21 place such covered investment in a qualified blind trust
22 under this Act.

23 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

1 (1) COMMODITY.—The term “commodity” has
2 the meaning given the term in section 1a of the
3 Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C. 1a).

4 (2) COVERED INVESTMENT.—The term “cov-
5 ered investment”—

6 (A) means investment in a security, a com-
7 modity, or a future, or any comparable eco-
8 nomic interest acquired through synthetic
9 means such as the use of a derivative; and

10 (B) does not include—

11 (i) a widely held investment fund de-
12 scribed in section 13104(f)(8) of title 5,
13 United States Code; or

14 (ii) a United States Treasury bill,
15 note, or bond.

16 (3) DEPENDENT CHILD.—The term “dependent
17 child” has the meaning given that term in section
18 13101 of title 5, United States Code.

19 (4) MEMBER OF CONGRESS.—The term “Mem-
20 ber of Congress” has the meaning given that term
21 in such section 13101.

22 (5) QUALIFIED BLIND TRUST.—The term
23 “qualified blind trust” has the meaning given that
24 term in section 13104(f)(3) of such title.

○