

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 351

To amend section 207 of title 18, United States Code, to ban former Senators and Members of the House of Representatives from lobbying Congress and the executive branch, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 12, 2023

Mr. VAN ORDEN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend section 207 of title 18, United States Code, to ban former Senators and Members of the House of Representatives from lobbying Congress and the executive branch, 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 “Ban Congressmen
5 Lobbyists Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. LIFETIME LOBBYING BAN FOR FORMER MEMBERS**
2 **OF CONGRESS.**

3 (a) LOBBYING THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH.—Section
4 207(e)(1) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by
5 adding at the end a new subparagraph:

6 “(C) MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AND THE
7 EXECUTIVE BRANCH.—Any person who is a
8 Member of the House of Representatives or a
9 Senator and who, at any point after that person
10 leaves office, knowingly makes, with the intent
11 to influence, any communication to or appear-
12 ance before any officer or employee of any de-
13 partment, agency, court, or court-martial of the
14 United States on behalf of any other person
15 (except the United States) in connection with a
16 particular matter—

17 “(i) in which the United States is a
18 party or has a direct and substantial inter-
19 est,

20 “(ii) in which the person participated
21 personally and substantially as such officer
22 or employee, and

23 “(iii) which involved a specific party
24 or specific parties at the time of such par-
25 ticipation,

1 shall be punished as provided in section 216 of
2 this title.”.

3 (b) LOBBYING CONGRESS.—Section 207(e)(1) of title
4 18, United States Code, is amended—

5 (1) in subparagraph (A) by striking “, within 2
6 years after” and inserting “, at any point after”;
7 and

8 (2) in subparagraph (B)—

9 (A) in clause (i) by striking “Any person
10 who is a Member” and inserting “Except as
11 provided in clause (iv), any person who is a
12 Member”; and

13 (B) by adding at the end the following new
14 clause:

15 “(iv) In the case of a person who is
16 a Member of the House of Representatives
17 referred to in clause (i), the restriction
18 under such clause applies to such person at
19 any point after such person leaves office.”.

20 (c) APPLICATION.—The amendments made by this
21 section shall apply to any person who is a Member of Con-
22 gress during the One Hundred and Eighteenth Congress
23 or any succeeding Congress.

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