

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4597

To allow individuals with disabilities to campaign for elected office without losing access to federally supported benefits.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 21, 2022

Mr. CASEY (for himself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WYDEN, and Ms. HIRONO) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To allow individuals with disabilities to campaign for elected office without losing access to federally supported benefits.

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 “Removing Access Bar-
5 riers to Running for Elected Office for People with Dis-
6 abilities Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. DISREGARDING CAMPAIGN WORK PERFORMED BY**
2 **INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES FOR PUR-**
3 **POSES OF FEDERALLY SUPPORTED BENE-**
4 **FITS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Any campaign work performed by
6 a qualified individual, and any compensation received by
7 such individual for such work, shall be disregarded for the
8 purpose of determining such individual’s eligibility for,
9 and amount of, benefits or assistance under any Federal
10 program or under any State or local program financed in
11 whole or in part with Federal funds.

12 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

13 (1) CAMPAIGN WORK.—The term “campaign
14 work” means work performed by an individual as a
15 candidate for an elected Federal, State, or local of-
16 fice.

17 (2) QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL.—The term “quali-
18 fied individual” means an individual who is entitled
19 to a benefit under title II or XVI of the Social Secu-
20 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 401 et seq., 1381 et seq.) by
21 reason of a disability.

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