

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4674

To amend the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 to require Members of Congress to reimburse the Treasury for payments of awards and settlements under such Act which are made in connection with claims of sexual harassment committed by the Members, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 18, 2017

Mrs. LOVE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration

A BILL

To amend the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 to require Members of Congress to reimburse the Treasury for payments of awards and settlements under such Act which are made in connection with claims of sexual harassment committed by the Members, 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 “Stop Taxpayers Obli-
5 gations to Perpetrators of Sexual Harassment Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. REQUIRING MEMBERS OF CONGRESS TO REIM-**
2 **BURSE TREASURY FOR AMOUNTS PAID AS**
3 **SETTLEMENTS AND AWARDS UNDER CON-**
4 **GRESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1995**
5 **IN CASES OF ACTS OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT**
6 **COMMITTED PERSONALLY BY MEMBERS.**

7 (a) MANDATING REIMBURSEMENT OF AMOUNTS
8 PAID.—Section 415 of the Congressional Accountability
9 Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1415) is amended by adding at
10 the end the following new subsection:

11 “(d) REIMBURSEMENT BY MEMBERS OF CONGRESS
12 OF AMOUNTS PAID AS SETTLEMENTS AND AWARDS IN
13 CASES OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—If a payment is made from
15 the account described in subsection (a) for an award
16 or settlement in connection with an allegation of a
17 violation of section 201(a) which consists of an act
18 of sexual harassment committed personally by a
19 Member of the House of Representatives or a Sen-
20 ator, the Member or Senator shall reimburse the ac-
21 count for the amount of the award or settlement, in
22 accordance with procedures established by the Com-
23 mittee on House Administration of the House of
24 Representatives (in the case of a Member of the
25 House, including a Delegate or Resident Commis-
26 sioner to the Congress) or the Committee on Rules

1 and Administration of the Senate (in the case of a
2 Senator).

3 “(2) DEADLINE.—A Member shall reimburse
4 the account described in subsection (a) for a pay-
5 ment described in paragraph (1) not later than 90
6 days after the payment is made.”.

7 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
8 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to payments made
9 on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

10 **SEC. 3. PROHIBITION AGAINST USE OF MEMBERS’ REP-**
11 **RESENTATIONAL ALLOWANCE FOR PAY-**
12 **MENTS IN CONNECTION WITH ALLEGATIONS**
13 **OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT.**

14 (a) PROHIBITION.—The Members’ Representational
15 Allowance of a Member of the House of Representatives
16 may not be used to pay awards, settlements, or other com-
17 pensation in connection with allegations of sexual harass-
18 ment by the Member or any individual whose compensa-
19 tion is paid from the Allowance.

20 (b) EXERCISE OF RULEMAKING AUTHORITY.—Sub-
21 section (a) is enacted—

22 (1) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of
23 the House of Representatives, and as such it shall
24 be considered as part of the rules of the House, and

1 shall supersede other rules only to the extent that it
2 is inconsistent therewith; and

3 (2) with full recognition of the constitutional
4 right of the House to change such rules at any time,
5 in the same manner, and to the same extent as in
6 the case of any other rule of the House.

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