

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 346

To amend title 18, United States Code, to establish a uniform 5-year post-employment ban on lobbying by former Members of Congress, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 5, 2017

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

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to establish a uniform 5-year post-employment ban on lobbying by former Members of Congress, 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 “Congressional Integrity
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. 5-YEAR POST-EMPLOYMENT BAN ON LOBBYING BY**
7 **FORMER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.**

8 (a) FORMER SENATORS.—Subparagraph (A) of sec-
9 tion 207(e)(1) of title 18, United States Code, is amended

1 by striking “within 2 years after that person leaves office”
2 and inserting “within 5 years after that person leaves of-
3 fice”.

4 (b) FORMER MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REP-
5 RESENTATIVES.—Paragraph (1) of section 207(e) of such
6 title is amended by striking subparagraph (B) and insert-
7 ing the following:

8 “(B) MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REP-
9 RESENTATIVES.—Any person who is a Member
10 of the House of Representatives and who, with-
11 in 5 years after that person leaves office, know-
12 ingly makes, with the intent to influence, any
13 communication to or appearance before any
14 Member, officer, or employee of either House of
15 Congress and any employee of any other legisla-
16 tive office of the Congress, on behalf of any
17 other person (except the United States) in con-
18 nection with any matter on which such former
19 Member seeks action by a Member, officer, or
20 employee of either House of Congress, in his or
21 her official capacity, shall be punished as pro-
22 vided in section 216 of this title.

23 “(C) OFFICERS OF THE HOUSE OF REP-
24 RESENTATIVES.—Any person who is an elected
25 officer of the House of Representatives and

1 who, within 1 year after that person leaves of-
 2 fice, knowingly makes, with the intent to influ-
 3 ence, any communication to or appearance be-
 4 fore any Member, officer, or employee of the
 5 House of Representatives, on behalf of any
 6 other person (except the United States) in con-
 7 nection with any matter on which such former
 8 elected officer seeks action by a Member, offi-
 9 cer, or employee of either House of Congress, in
 10 his or her official capacity, shall be punished as
 11 provided in section 216 of this title.”.

12 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
 13 this section shall apply with respect to any individual who,
 14 on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, leaves
 15 an office to which section 207(e)(1) of title 18, United
 16 States Code, applies.

17 **SEC. 3. ELIMINATION OF 20-PERCENT EXEMPTION FOR**
 18 **FORMER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS ENGAGING**
 19 **IN LOBBYING.**

20 (a) ELIMINATION OF EXEMPTION.—Section 3(10) of
 21 the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1602(10))
 22 is amended to read as follows:

23 “(10) LOBBYIST.—

24 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in
 25 subparagraph (B), term ‘lobbyist’ means any

1 individual who is employed or retained by a cli-
2 ent for financial or other compensation for serv-
3 ices that include more than one lobbying con-
4 tact.

5 “(B) EXCEPTION.—Subparagraph (A)
6 does not apply to an individual with respect to
7 a client if the individual’s lobbying activities
8 constitute less than 20 percent of the time en-
9 gaged in the services provided by such indi-
10 vidual to that client over a 3-month period. The
11 previous sentence does not apply to an indi-
12 vidual if the individual held an office to which
13 subparagraph (A) or subparagraph (B) of sec-
14 tion 207(e)(1) of title 18, United States Code,
15 applies.”.

16 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
17 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to lobbying contacts
18 made on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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