

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7231

To amend the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 to expand the scope of individuals and activities which are subject to the requirements of such Act, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 22, 2026

Mrs. RAMIREZ (for herself, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. MULLIN, and Ms. SIMON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 to expand the scope of individuals and activities which are subject to the requirements of such Act, 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 “Lobbyist Loophole Clo-

5 sure Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXPANDING SCOPE OF INDIVIDUALS AND ACTIVI-**
2 **TIES SUBJECT TO REQUIREMENTS OF LOB-**
3 **BYING DISCLOSURE ACT OF 1995.**

4 (a) COVERAGE OF INDIVIDUALS PROVIDING LEGIS-
5 LATIVE, POLITICAL, AND STRATEGIC COUNSELING SERV-
6 ICES.—

7 (1) TREATMENT OF LEGISLATIVE, POLITICAL,
8 AND STRATEGIC COUNSELING SERVICES IN SUPPORT
9 OF LOBBYING CONTACTS AS LOBBYING ACTIVITY.—
10 Section 3(7) of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995
11 (2 U.S.C. 1602(7)) is amended—

12 (A) by striking “efforts” and inserting
13 “any efforts”; and

14 (B) by striking “research and other back-
15 ground work” and inserting the following:
16 “counseling in support of such preparation and
17 planning activities, research, and other back-
18 ground work”.

19 (2) TREATMENT OF LOBBYING CONTACT MADE
20 WITH SUPPORT OF COUNSELING SERVICES AS LOB-
21 BYING CONTACT MADE BY INDIVIDUAL PROVIDING
22 SERVICES.—Section 3(8) of such Act (2 U.S.C.
23 1602(8)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
24 lowing new subparagraph:

25 “(C) TREATMENT OF PROVIDERS OF
26 COUNSELING SERVICES.—Any individual, with

1 authority to director or substantially influence
2 any lobbying contact made by another indi-
3 vidual, and for financial or other compensation
4 provides counseling services in support of prep-
5 aration and planning activities which are treat-
6 ed as lobbying activities under paragraph (7)
7 for that other individual's lobbying contact and
8 who has knowledge that the specific lobbying
9 contact was made, shall be considered to have
10 made the same lobbying contact at the same
11 time in the same manner to the covered execu-
12 tive branch official or covered legislative branch
13 official involved.”.

14 (b) REDUCTION OF PERCENTAGE EXEMPTION FOR
15 DETERMINATION OF THRESHOLD OF LOBBYING CON-
16 TACTS REQUIRED FOR INDIVIDUALS TO REGISTER AS
17 LOBBYISTS.—Section 3(10) of such Act (2 U.S.C.
18 1602(10)) is amended by striking “less than 20 percent”
19 and inserting “less than 10 percent”.

20 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
21 this section shall apply with respect to lobbying contacts
22 made on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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