

NEW 2020 BILL PROVISIONS BY TITLE

Title I: Lock the Revolving Door and Increase Public Integrity

- Ban members of Congress and senior congressional staff from serving on corporate boards – whether or not they are paid to do so.
- Clarify that the Department of Justice can indict the President of the United States for criminal activity, including for obstruction of justice.
- Amend obstruction of justice statutes to explicitly allow for an indictment when the President abuses the powers of the office.
- Close bribery loopholes by expanding the definition of “official act” in bribery statutes to criminalize the sale of government access; restoring the ability of the Department of Justice to prosecute corrupt politicians who accept bribes weakened by *United States v. McDonnell*; and clarifying that a stream of benefits – rather than a single act – qualifies as an unlawful benefit in exchange for a bribe.
- Prohibit Members of Congress from taking office until their financial disclosure is completed.
- Strengthen Inauguration Fund ethics rules by banning corporations and lobbyists from donating to inaugural committees and place contribution limits on donations.
- Implement strict disclosure requirements and regulations on so-called “political intelligence consulting,” and prohibit former public officials from cashing in on insider political information.

Title II: End Lobbying as We Know It

- *No new provisions*

Title III: End Corporate Capture of Public Interest Rules

- *No new provisions*

Title IV: Improve Judicial Integrity and Defend Access to Justice for All Americans

- Ban forced arbitration clauses, preventing them from blocking lawsuits related to employment, consumer protection, antitrust, and civil rights.
- Ban mandatory class action waivers, restoring the fundamental right of workers and consumers to join together when they are wronged.
- Allow people to file complaints against Supreme Court Justices, like all other federal judges, and establish a new Supreme Court Complaints Review Committee (“Review Committee”) under the general supervision of the House Judiciary Committee (“Judiciary Committee”), to review complaints and determine whether the conduct may constitute grounds for impeachment. If a determination is made that the conduct may constitute grounds for impeachment the Review Committee will submit the complaint to the Judiciary Committee.
- Require the Judiciary Committee to vote on whether to proceed with an investigation or an impeachment within 30 legislative days of receiving a referral from the Supreme Court Complaints Review Committee or the Judicial Conference of the United States.
- Grant Judicial Councils and their parent organization, the Judicial Conference, strong disciplinary authority, including the ability to strip taxpayer-funded pensions from judges for misconduct.
- Prevent judicial misconduct against employees and law clerks by supporting strong climate surveys for court employees about the work environment in the federal judiciary.

- Close the loophole that allows federal judges to escape investigations and accountability for misconduct by stepping down from the bench; keep investigations open until findings are public and any penalties for misconduct are issued; and extend the disciplinary authority of the Judicial Conference to former and retired judges.
- Prohibit judges from deciding for themselves whether they should recuse from a case by empowering the Chief Judges in regional circuits to establish binding recusal process for judges to follow, and requiring courts to publish its reasons any time judges are recused from a case without a recusal motion, including when judges voluntarily recuse.
- Require Supreme Court Justices to provide written explanations of recusal decisions when a litigant challenges for recusal; require the Judicial Conference to issue a non-binding, public advisory opinion with its recommendation.
- Prohibit courts from sealing records involving major public health and safety issues, with rare exceptions, so that corporations cannot conceal these dangerous conditions from the public.
- Ban companies from using secret settlements that harm consumers and workers by making any provision in a contract or settlement agreement between a corporation and any person that conceals the details of a claim relating to an employment, consumer, antitrust, or civil rights dispute against a current or former employee or consumer unenforceable.

Title V: Strengthen Enforcement

- *No new provisions*

Title VI: Transparency

- *No new provisions*

NEW: Title VII: Reform the Country's Campaign Finance Laws

- Clarify that the definition of “in-kind contributions” applies to intangible benefits, such as information, and in-kind financial contributions (like hush money payments) whenever those contributions are made – even if not exclusively – for campaign purposes.
- Prohibit federal candidates from accepting contributions from corporate PACs. In addition, prohibit corporate PACs from contributing to federal candidates.
- Prohibit companies from spending in American elections if they are appreciably owned or controlled by a foreign entity.
- Prohibit contributions to Members of Congress from corporations under the jurisdiction of their committees.
- Prohibit campaign donations from being a consideration in the selection of ambassadors.
- Extend the prohibition on corporations and federal contractors directly contributing to also ban them from fundraising for any candidate for federal office or Member of Congress.
- Close the loopholes for single candidate Super PACs. Consider it unlawful coordination if a person with political, personal, professional, or family relationship runs a Super PAC to candidate.
- Require disclosure of major donors, bundlers, and finance events in presidential campaigns:
 - All major contributors, including finance committees and bundling achievements;
 - All members of host committees and invitations for fundraisers and the dates and locations.
- Address online political advertising by including internet ads in rules regulating electioneering communications; requiring large platforms to keep information about political ad buys; and requiring large platforms to make reasonable efforts to prevent illegal ad buys by foreign nationals.

- Require organizations that makes an election-related expenditure to disclose their large donors.
- Require Super PACs and other dark money groups to provide enough information about the sources of their money that the American people can trace it back to the ultimate individuals and entities that are funding them—not just the shell organizations used to conceal those sources.
- Establish a 6-1 publicly financed, small dollar, matching funds program for candidates and parties. Give a 6-1 match for small dollar contributions, less than \$200. Fund this system from penalties coming from corporate malfeasance and major tax crimes.
- Lower contribution limits to individuals and political parties to \$1,000 for campaign contributions and to \$10,000 for contributions to political parties from the current limits.
- Establish public financing for the national conventions of major political parties.
- Enhance Federal Elections Committee (FEC) enforcement by expanding FEC power to impose fines, increasing resources for staff to conduct investigations, reinstating its random audit authority.
- Give parties the ability to go to federal court if the FEC fails to pursue an enforcement action.
- Restrict testing the waters by prohibiting candidates from raising undisclosed funds for their campaign before they declare their candidacy.
- Repeal of restriction on disclosure of political spending by government contractors.
- Requests a GAO report on the influence of political contributions by judicial and executive branch nominees on the Senate confirmation process.