

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT

119–38

OFFERED BY MR. MAGAZINER OF RHODE ISLAND

Strike all after page 1, line 1, and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the “Restore Trust in Con-
3 gress Act”.

4 SEC. 2. RESTRICTIONS ON TRADE AND OWNERSHIP OF
5 COVERED INVESTMENTS.

6 (a) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
7 chapter 131 of title 5, United States Code, is amended
8 by adding at the end the following:

SUBCHAPTER IV. RESTRICTIONS ON TRADE AND OWNERSHIP OF COVERED
INVESTMENTS

13151. Definitions.

13152. Trade and ownership of covered investments.

13153. Penalties.

9 (b) RESTRICTIONS.—Chapter 131 of title 5, United
10 States Code, is amended by adding at the end a new sub-
11 chapter:

12 “SUBCHAPTER IV—RESTRICTIONS ON TRADE
13 AND OWNERSHIP OF COVERED INVESTMENTS

14 “§ 13151. Definitions

15 “In this subchapter:

1 “(1) COMMODITY.—The term ‘commodity’—

2 “(A) has the meaning given the term in
3 section 1a of the Commodity Exchange Act (7
4 U.S.C. 1a); and

5 “(B) does not include a precious metal (as
6 defined in section 1027.100 of title 31, Code of
7 Federal Regulations).

8 “(2) COVERED INDIVIDUAL.—The term ‘cov-
9 ered individual’ means any of the following:

10 “(A) A Member of Congress as defined in
11 section 13101.

12 “(B) A dependent child as defined in sec-
13 tion 13101 or a spouse of a Member of Con-
14 gress.

15 “(C) An individual or entity described in
16 section 13104(f)(3)(A) with respect to a cov-
17 ered investment placed in a trust for any indi-
18 vidual described in subparagraphs (A) or (B).

19 “(3) COVERED INVESTMENT.—The term ‘cov-
20 ered investment’—

21 “(A) means an investment in a security, a
22 commodity, a future, or any comparable eco-
23 nomic interest acquired through synthetic
24 means, such as the use of a derivative, includ-

1 ing an option, warrant, or other similar means;
2 and

3 “(B) does not include—

4 “(i) a widely held investment fund de-
5 scribed in section 13104(f)(8) that is di-
6 versified and publicly traded on a national
7 or regional stock exchange;

8 “(ii) a United States Treasury bill,
9 note, or bond;

10 “(iii) a State or municipal government
11 bill, note, or bond;

12 “(iv) any compensation received by
13 the spouse or dependent child of a covered
14 official from their employer;

15 “(v) an interest in a small business
16 concern;

17 “(vi) an interest in a limited liability
18 company created for the sole purpose of
19 purchasing or holding real estate that
20 serves as the personal residence of the
21 Member of Congress;

22 “(vii) any share of Settlement Com-
23 mon Stock issued under section 7(g)(1)(A)
24 of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement
25 Act (43 U.S.C. 1606(g)(1)(A)); or

1 “(viii) any share of Settlement Com-
2 mon Stock, as defined in section 3 of the
3 Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43
4 U.S.C. 1602).

5 “(4) DIVERSIFIED.—The term ‘diversified’,
6 with respect to an investment fund, means such
7 fund does not have a stated policy of concentrating
8 its investments in any industry, business, single
9 country other than the United States, or bonds of a
10 single State within the United States except for the
11 State in which the Member of Congress resides.

12 “(5) FUTURE.—The term ‘future’ means a fi-
13 nancial contract obligating the buyer to purchase an
14 asset or the seller to sell an asset, such as a physical
15 commodity or a financial investment, at a predeter-
16 mined future date and price.

17 “(6) SECURITY.—The term ‘security’ has the
18 meaning given the term in section 3(a) of the Secu-
19 rities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78c(a)).

20 “(7) SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN.—The term
21 ‘small business concern’ has the meaning given that
22 term under section 3 of the Small Business Act (15
23 U.S.C. 632).

1 “(8) SUPERVISING ETHICS OFFICE.—The term
2 ‘supervising ethics office’ has the meaning given the
3 term in section 13101.

4 **“§ 13152. Trade and ownership of covered invest-**
5 **ments**

6 “(a) CONDUCT DURING FEDERAL SERVICE.—Except
7 as described in subsection (b)(1)(B) and subsections (d)
8 through (f), no covered individual may, directly or indi-
9 rectly, own or trade a covered investment.

10 “(b) COMPLIANCE.—

11 “(1) REQUIREMENT.—To comply with sub-
12 section (a)—

13 “(A) a covered individual may not pur-
14 chase a covered investment; and

15 “(B) a covered individual shall divest of
16 any covered investment by the effective date es-
17 tablished in paragraph (2) at fair market value.

18 “(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The effective date is
19 established as follows:

20 “(A) 180 days for an individual who is a
21 covered individual on the date of enactment of
22 the Restore Trust in Congress Act.

23 “(B) 90 days within the date on which an
24 individual becomes a covered individual if such

1 date occurs after the date of enactment of the
2 Restore Trust in Congress Act.

3 “(c) CERTIFICATES OF DIVESTITURE.—

4 “(1) APPLICATION OF CERTIFICATE OF DIVES-
5 TITURE PROGRAM.—For purposes of section 1043 of
6 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986—

7 “(A) this section shall be treated as a Fed-
8 eral conflict of interest statute;

9 “(B) any covered individual described in
10 section 13151(2)(A) shall be treated as an eligi-
11 ble person described in section 1043(b)(1)(A) of
12 such Code; and

13 “(C) any spouse or dependent child de-
14 scribed in section 13151(2)(B) shall be treated
15 as an eligible person described in section
16 1043(b)(1)(B) of such Code.

17 “(2) ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATE OF DIVESTI-
18 TURE.—

19 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Each supervising eth-
20 ics office shall issue a certificate of divestiture
21 to each covered individual required to divest
22 under this subchapter upon submission of proof
23 of compliance by such individual with the re-
24 quirements to divest or any extensions granted
25 by the supervising ethics office.

1 “(B) ELIGIBILITY.—Such certificate shall
2 include an identification of each specific prop-
3 erty eligible for the application of the certificate
4 of divestiture program as determined by the su-
5 pervising ethics office.

6 “(d) OCCUPATIONAL EXCEPTION.—A spouse or de-
7 pendent child of a Member of Congress may trade any
8 covered investment if such covered investment is not
9 owned by a covered individual and if such trade is per-
10 formed as a function of the primary occupation of the
11 spouse or dependent child.

12 “(e) TRUSTS.—

13 “(1) QUALIFIED BLIND TRUST.—Any covered
14 investment held in a qualified blind trust as defined
15 in section 13104(f)(3) shall be divested in accord-
16 ance with subsection (b)(1)(B) by the effective date
17 established in subsection (b)(2).

18 “(2) FAMILY TRUST.—A supervising ethics of-
19 fice may grant an exemption for covered investments
20 held in a family trust only if—

21 “(A) no covered individual—

22 “(i) is a grantor of the family trust;

23 “(ii) contributed any covered invest-
24 ment to the family trust; or

1 “(iii) has any authority over a trustee
2 of the family trust, including the authority
3 to appoint, replace, or direct the actions of
4 such a trustee; and

5 “(B) the grantor of the family trust is or
6 was a family member of the covered individual.

7 “(3) REQUESTS.—A covered individual seeking
8 an exemption under paragraph (2) shall submit to
9 the applicable supervising ethics office a request for
10 the exemption, in writing, certifying that the condi-
11 tions described in that paragraph are met.

12 “(f) ASSETS ACQUIRED IN SPECIAL CIR-
13 CUMSTANCES.—In the event that a covered individual ac-
14 quires a covered investment after the date of enactment
15 of the Restore Trust in Congress Act other than by pur-
16 chase (such as by marriage, inheritance, divorce settle-
17 ment, or other circumstance), the covered individual shall
18 have 90 days from the date on which such investment was
19 acquired to divest such covered investment at fair market
20 value.

21 “(g) EXTENSION.—A supervising ethics office may
22 grant a covered individual an extension of time to comply
23 with a divestment deadline under this subchapter if a cov-
24 ered investment cannot be divested by such deadline due

1 to low liquidity, vesting schedules, or contractual restric-
2 tions.

3 “(h) INTERPRETATIVE GUIDANCE.—The supervising
4 ethics office shall issue interpretive guidance on any rel-
5 evant term not defined in this subchapter.

6 **“§ 13153. Penalties**

7 “(a) IN GENERAL.—

8 “(1) PENALTIES.—Any covered individual who
9 violates the restrictions on trading or ownership of
10 covered investments in section 13152 shall, at the
11 direction of the supervising ethics office—

12 “(A) pay a fee equal to ten percent of the
13 value of the covered investment; and

14 “(B) disgorge the profits of any trans-
15 action that violates the provisions of this sub-
16 chapter.

17 “(2) PAYMENT OF PENALTY TO TREASURY.—A
18 penalty imposed under paragraph (1)(B) shall be
19 payable into the Treasury of the United States.

20 “(b) PAYMENT RESTRICTIONS.—A Member of the
21 House of Representatives may not pay any of the penalties
22 under this section by using amounts from the following
23 sources:

24 “(1) The Members’ Representational Allowance.

1 “(2) Any contribution (as defined in section
2 301(8) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of
3 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30101(8))) accepted as a can-
4 didate, and any other donation received as support
5 for activities of the individual as a holder of Federal
6 office.

7 “(c) PUBLICATION.—Each supervising ethics office
8 shall publish on a publicly available website a description
9 of—

10 “(1) each fine assessed by the supervising eth-
11 ics office pursuant to this section;

12 “(2) the reason why each such fine was as-
13 sessed; and

14 “(3) the result of each assessment.”.

