

Public Law 105-166  
105th Congress

An Act

Apr. 6, 1998

[S. 758]

Lobbying  
Disclosure  
Technical  
Amendments Act  
of 1998.  
2 USC 1601 note.

To make certain technical corrections to the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE AND REFERENCE.**

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the “Lobbying Disclosure Technical Amendments Act of 1998”.

(b) **REFERENCE.**—Whenever in this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995.

**SEC. 2. DEFINITION OF COVERED EXECUTIVE BRANCH OFFICIAL.**

Section 3(3)(F) (2 U.S.C. 1602(3)(F)) is amended by striking “7511(b)(2)” and inserting “7511(b)(2)(B)”.

**SEC. 3. CLARIFICATION OF EXCEPTION TO LOBBYING CONTACT.**

(a) **CERTAIN COMMUNICATIONS.**—Section 3(8)(B)(ix) (2 U.S.C. 1602(8)(B)(ix)) is amended by inserting before the semicolon the following: “, including any communication compelled by a Federal contract, grant, loan, permit, or license”.

(b) **DEFINITION OF “PUBLIC OFFICIAL”.**—Section 3(15)(F) (2 U.S.C. 1602(15)(F)) is amended by inserting “, or a group of governments acting together as an international organization” before the period.

**SEC. 4. ESTIMATES BASED ON TAX REPORTING SYSTEM.**

(a) **SECTION 15(a).**—Section 15(a) (2 U.S.C. 1610(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking “A registrant” and inserting “A person, other than a lobbying firm,”; and

(2) by amending paragraph (2) to read as follows:

“(2) for all other purposes consider as lobbying contacts and lobbying activities only—

“(A) lobbying contacts with covered legislative branch officials (as defined in section 3(4)) and lobbying activities in support of such contacts; and

“(B) lobbying of Federal executive branch officials to the extent that such activities are influencing legislation as defined in section 4911(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.”.

(b) **SECTION 15(b).**—Section 15(b) (2 U.S.C. 1610(b)) is amended—

(1) by striking “A registrant that is subject to” and inserting “A person, other than a lobbying firm, who is required to account and does account for lobbying expenditures pursuant to”; and

(2) by amending paragraph (2) to read as follows:

“(2) for all other purposes consider as lobbying contacts and lobbying activities only—

“(A) lobbying contacts with covered legislative branch officials (as defined in section 3(4)) and lobbying activities in support of such contacts; and

“(B) lobbying of Federal executive branch officials to the extent that amounts paid or costs incurred in connection with such activities are not deductible pursuant to section 162(e) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.”

(c) SECTION 5(c).—Section 5(c) (2 U.S.C. 1604(c)) is amended by striking paragraph (3).

**SEC. 5. EXEMPTION BASED ON REGISTRATION UNDER LOBBYING ACT.**

Section 3(h) of the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938 (22 U.S.C. 613(h)) is amended by striking “is required to register and does register” and inserting “has engaged in lobbying activities and has registered”.

Approved April 6, 1998.

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**LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S. 758:**

SENATE REPORTS: No. 105-147 (Comm. on Governmental Affairs).

**CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:**

Vol. 143 (1997): Nov. 13, considered and passed Senate.

Vol. 144 (1998): Mar. 18, considered and passed House.