

# Union Calendar No.

117<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 5720

[Report No. 117-]

To amend the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 to provide for a periodic transaction reporting requirement for Federal judicial officers and the online publication of financial disclosure reports of Federal judicial officers, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 25, 2021

Ms. ROSS (for herself, Mr. ISSA, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. NADLER, and Mr. ROY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

NOVEMBER --, 2021

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italie*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on October 25, 2021]

# **A BILL**

To amend the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 to provide for a periodic transaction reporting requirement for Federal judicial officers and the online publication of financial disclosure reports of Federal judicial officers, 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 “Courthouse Ethics and*  
5 *Transparency Act”.*

6 **SEC. 2. PERIODIC TRANSACTION REPORTS AND ONLINE**  
7 **PUBLICATION OF FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE**  
8 **REPORTS OF FEDERAL JUDICIAL OFFICERS.**

9        *(a) PERIODIC TRANSACTION REPORTING REQUIRE-*  
10 *MENT FOR FEDERAL JUDICIAL OFFICERS.—*

11            *(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 103(l) of the Ethics in*  
12 *Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended*  
13 *by adding at the end the following:*

14            *“(11) Each judicial officer.”.*

15            *(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by*  
16 *paragraph (1) shall apply to applicable transactions*  
17 *occurring on or after the date that is 90 days after*  
18 *the date of enactment of this Act.*

19        *(b) ONLINE PUBLICATION OF FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE*  
20 *REPORTS OF FEDERAL JUDICIAL OFFICERS.—Section 105*  
21 *of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.)*  
22 *is amended—*

23            *(1) by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as*  
24 *subsections (d) and (e), respectively; and*

1           (2) *by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-*  
2           *lowing:*

3           “(c) *ONLINE PUBLICATION OF FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE*  
4           *REPORTS OF JUDICIAL OFFICERS.—*

5           “(1) *ESTABLISHMENT OF DATABASE.—Not later*  
6           *than 180 days after the date of enactment of the*  
7           *Courthouse Ethics and Transparency Act, the Admin-*  
8           *istrative Office of the United States Courts shall es-*  
9           *tablish a searchable internet database to enable public*  
10          *access to any report required to be filed by a judicial*  
11          *officer under this title.*

12          “(2) *AVAILABILITY.—Not later than 90 days*  
13          *after the date on which a report is required to be filed*  
14          *under this title by a judicial officer, the Administra-*  
15          *tive Office of the United States Courts shall make the*  
16          *report available on the database established under*  
17          *paragraph (1) in a full-text searchable, sortable, and*  
18          *downloadable format for access by the public.*

19          “(3) *REDACTION.—Any report made available on*  
20          *the database established under paragraph (1) shall*  
21          *not contain any information that is redacted in ac-*  
22          *cordance with subsection (b)(3).”.*

23          “(c) *TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—*

1           (1) *Section 103(l) of the Ethics in Government*  
2 *Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) (as amended by sub-*  
3 *section (a)(1)) is amended—*

4           (A) *in paragraph (9), by striking “, as de-*  
5 *fin ed under section 109(12)”;* and

6           (B) *in paragraph (10), by striking “, as de-*  
7 *fin ed under section 109(13)”.*

8           (2) *Section 105 of the Ethics in Government Act*  
9 *of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) (as amended by subsection*  
10 *(b)) is amended—*

11           (A) *in subsection (a)(1), by striking “be re-*  
12 *vealing” and inserting “by revealing”;* and

13           (B) *in subsection (b)—*

14           (i) *in paragraph (1)—*

15           (I) *in the first sentence, by strik-*  
16 *ing “be,,” and inserting “be,;”;* and

17           (II) *in the third sentence, by*  
18 *striking “may be may” and inserting*  
19 *“may be, may”;* and

20           (ii) *in paragraph (3)(A), by striking*  
21 *“described in section 109(8) or 109(10) of*  
22 *this Act” and inserting “who is a judicial*  
23 *officer or a judicial employee”.*

24           (3) *Section 107(a)(1) of the Ethics in Govern-*  
25 *ment Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App) is amended in the*

- 1 *last sentence by striking “and (d)” and inserting*
- 2 *“and (e)”.*