

.....
(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To require candidates for Federal office to divest publicly traded securities or place such securities in a qualified blind trust upon filing for office, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. MACKENZIE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To require candidates for Federal office to divest publicly traded securities or place such securities in a qualified blind trust upon filing for office, 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 “Candidate Investment
5 Transparency and Ethics Act of 2026” or the “CITE Act
6 of 2026”.

7 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

8 In this Act:

1 (1) CANDIDATE.—The term “candidate” means
2 any individual who files a statement of candidacy or
3 statement of organization with the Federal Election
4 Commission or otherwise formally declares their in-
5 tention to seek election to—

6 (A) the Office of President or Vice Presi-
7 dent of the United States;

8 (B) the United States Senate; or

9 (C) the United States House of Represent-
10 atives.

11 (2) COVERED INVESTMENT.—The term “cov-
12 ered investment” means any security issued by a
13 publicly traded company, including—

14 (A) common or preferred stock;

15 (B) bonds, debentures, or other debt in-
16 struments of a publicly traded issuer;

17 (C) stock options, warrants, or convertible
18 securities; and

19 (D) exchange-traded funds and similar
20 products that hold individual securities of pub-
21 licly traded companies, except to the extent
22 such funds qualify as exempt investments under
23 paragraph (4).

1 (3) COVERED INDIVIDUAL.—The term “covered
2 individual” means a candidate and the spouse and
3 dependent children of the candidate.

4 (4) EXEMPT INVESTMENTS.—The term “ex-
5 empt investment” means—

6 (A) widely diversified mutual funds;

7 (B) index funds or exchange-traded funds
8 that track a broad market index, including the
9 S&P 500, the Dow Jones Industrial Average, or
10 a comparable index;

11 (C) widely diversified exchange-traded
12 funds, including sector-based or thematic ex-
13 change-traded funds.

14 (D) United States Treasury securities, ob-
15 ligations of the United States Government, or
16 obligations of State or local governments;

17 (E) certificates of deposit, money market
18 funds, and cash equivalents; and

19 (F) interests in a defined benefit pension
20 plan or similar retirement arrangement not sub-
21 ject to individual investment direction.

22 (5) FILING DATE.—The term “filing date”
23 means the date on which a candidate files any docu-
24 ment with the Federal Election Commission, a State
25 election authority, or the Clerk of the House of Rep-

1 representatives or the Secretary of the Senate that for-
2 mally initiates the candidacy.

3 (6) QUALIFIED BLIND TRUST.—The term
4 “qualified blind trust” has the meaning given that
5 term under section 13104(f)(3) of title 5, United
6 States Code.

7 (7) SUPERVISING ETHICS OFFICE.—The term
8 “supervising ethics office” means—

9 (A) the Committee on Ethics of the House
10 of Representatives, for candidates for the
11 House of Representatives;

12 (B) the Select Committee on Ethics of the
13 Senate, for candidates for the Senate; and

14 (C) the Office of Government Ethics, for
15 candidates for President or Vice President.

16 **SEC. 3. DIVESTITURE OR BLIND TRUST REQUIREMENT FOR**
17 **CANDIDATES FOR FEDERAL OFFICE.**

18 (a) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 90 days after the
19 filing date, each covered individual shall—

20 (1) divest all covered investments held by the
21 covered individual; or

22 (2) place all covered investments held by the
23 covered individual into a qualified blind trust that
24 meets the requirements of subsection (b).

1 (b) REQUIREMENTS FOR QUALIFIED BLIND
2 TRUST.—A qualified blind trust established pursuant to
3 subsection (a)(2) shall—

4 (1) be established and administered in accord-
5 ance with the requirements of section 13104(f) of
6 title 5, United States Code;

7 (2) be managed by an independent trustee who
8 is not a relative, business associate, or political affil-
9 iate of the covered individual;

10 (3) prohibit the covered individual from having
11 any knowledge of, or influence over, the investment
12 decisions made by the trustee; and

13 (4) prohibit any communication between the
14 covered individual and the trustee regarding the as-
15 sets or transactions within the trust, except as re-
16 quired by law or for tax purposes.

17 (c) CERTIFICATION.—Not later than 90 days after
18 the filing date, each covered individual shall file a written
19 certification with the applicable supervising ethics office
20 attesting that—

21 (1) the covered individual holds no covered in-
22 vestments other than exempt investments; or

23 (2) all covered investments have been placed in
24 a qualified blind trust in compliance with this sec-

1 tion, including the name of the trustee and the fi-
2 nancial institution administering the trust.

3 (d) SPOUSAL AND DEPENDENT CHILD ASSETS.—A
4 covered individual shall make good faith efforts to ensure
5 that the covered investments of a spouse or dependent
6 child are divested or placed in a qualified blind trust pur-
7 suant to this section. If a spouse maintains legally inde-
8 pendent finances and does not consent to such divestiture
9 or placement, the candidate shall certify such fact to the
10 supervising ethics office, which shall have authority to de-
11 termine whether an exemption is warranted.

12 **SEC. 4. PROHIBITION ON ACQUISITION OF COVERED IN-**
13 **VESTMENTS DURING CANDIDACY.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—During the period beginning on
15 the filing date and ending on the date on which the cov-
16 ered individual is no longer a candidate or no longer holds
17 or is seeking Federal office, a covered individual may not
18 purchase or otherwise acquire any new covered invest-
19 ment.

20 (b) EXCEPTION.—Subsection (a) shall not apply to—

21 (1) the receipt of a covered investment as part
22 of a will, trust distribution, or similar inheritance,
23 provided that such investment is divested or placed
24 in a qualified blind trust within 90 days of receipt;
25 and

1 (2) purchases made within a qualified blind
2 trust established pursuant to section 3.

3 **SEC. 5. RULEMAKING.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
5 date of the enactment of this Act, the Committee on Eth-
6 ics of the House of Representatives, the Select Committee
7 on Ethics of the Senate, and the Office of Government
8 Ethics shall each issue regulations to carry out this Act
9 with respect to candidates under their respective jurisdic-
10 tion.

11 (b) CONTENTS.—The regulations issued under sub-
12 section (a) shall include—

13 (1) procedures for filing and reviewing certifi-
14 cations under section 3(c);

15 (2) standards for determining whether a trust
16 qualifies as a qualified blind trust for purposes of
17 this Act; and

18 (3) a process for covered individuals to request
19 a hardship waiver, which may be granted only in ex-
20 traordinary circumstances and shall be made pub-
21 licly available.

22 **SEC. 6. RELATION TO OTHER LAW.**

23 (a) STOCK ACT.—Nothing in this Act shall be con-
24 strued to limit the application of the STOCK Act of 2012
25 (Public Law 112–105) or any other applicable Federal law

1 governing insider trading, conflicts of interest, or financial
2 disclosure.

3 (b) ETHICS IN GOVERNMENT ACT.—This Act shall
4 be construed in conjunction with, and not in derogation
5 of, chapter 131 of title 5, United States Code, and the
6 financial disclosure requirements applicable to Federal
7 candidates.

8 **SEC. 7. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

9 This Act shall take effect on the date that is 180 days
10 after the date of enactment of this Act and shall apply
11 to any individual who files for Federal office on or after
12 such effective date.