AMENDMENT NO. _______   Calendar No. _______

Purpose: To provide for public filing and disclosure of financial disclosure forms of Members of Congress and congressional staff.


S. ________________

(title)

(Referred to the Committee on ________________ and ordered to be printed)

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT intended to be proposed by ________________

Viz:

1 At the appropriate place, insert the following:

2 SEC. _____. PUBLIC FILING AND DISCLOSURE OF FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE FORMS OF MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AND CONGRESSIONAL STAFF.

3 (a) Public, On-line Disclosure of Financial Disclosure Forms of Members of Congress and Congressional Staff.—

4 (1) In general.—Not later than August 31, 2012, or 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, whichever is later, the Secretary of the Senate and the Sergeant at Arms of the Senate, and the
Clerk of the House of Representatives, shall ensure that financial disclosure forms filed by Members of Congress, officers of the House and Senate, candidates for Congress, and employees of the Senate and the House of Representatives in calendar year 2012 and in subsequent years pursuant to title I of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 are made available to the public on the respective official websites of the Senate and the House of Representatives not later than 30 days after such forms are filed.

(2) Extensions.—The existing protocol allowing for extension requests for financial disclosures shall be retained. Extension requests for financial disclosure shall be made available electronically under this subsection along with its related disclosure.

(3) Reporting Transactions.—In the case of a transaction disclosure required by section 101(j) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, as added by this Act, such disclosures shall be filed not later than 30 days after the transaction. Extension requests for financial disclosure shall be made available electronically under this subsection along with its related disclosure.
(4) Expiration.—The requirements of this subsection shall expire upon implementation of the public disclosure system established under subsection (b).

(b) Electronic Filing and On-line Public Availability of Financial Disclosure Forms of Members of Congress, Officers of the House and Senate, and Congressional Staff.—

(1) In general.—Subject to paragraph (5) and not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Senate and the Sergeant at Arms of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall develop systems to enable—

(A) electronic filing of reports received by them pursuant to section 103(h)(1)(A) of title 1 of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978; and

(B) public access to financial disclosure forms filed by Members of Congress, Officers of the House and Senate, candidates for Congress, and employees of the Senate and House of Representatives, as well as reports of a transaction disclosure required by section 101(j) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, as added by this Act, notices of extensions, amendments and
blind trusts, pursuant to title I of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 through databases that—

(i) are maintained on the official websites of the House of Representatives and the Senate; and

(ii) allow the public to search, sort and download data contained in the reports.

(2) LOGIN.—No login shall be required to search or sort the data contained in the reports made available by this subsection. A login protocol with name of user shall be utilized by a person downloading data contained in the reports.

(3) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—Pursuant to section 103(i) of title 1 of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, electronic availability on the official websites of the Senate and the House of Representatives under this subsection shall be deemed to have met the public availability requirement.

(4) FILERS COVERED.—Individuals required under the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 or the Senate Rules to file financial disclosure reports with the Secretary of the Senate or the Clerk of the House shall file reports electronically using the sys-
tems developed by the Secretary of the Senate and
the Clerk of the House.

(5) EXTENSIONS.—The existing protocol allowing for extension requests for financial disclosures shall be retained for purposes of this subsection. Extension requests for financial disclosure shall be made available electronically under this subsection along with its related disclosure.

(6) ADDITIONAL TIME.—The requirements of this subsection may be implemented after the date provided in paragraph (1) if the Secretary of the Senate or the Clerk of the House identify in writing to relevant congressional committees an additional amount of time needed.

(c) RECORDKEEPING.—Section 105(d) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 is amended to read as follows:

“(d)(1) Any report filed with or transmitted to an agency or supervising ethics office or to the Clerk of the House of Representatives or the Secretary of the Senate pursuant to this title shall be retained by such agency or office or by the Clerk or the Secretary of the Senate, as the case may be.

“(2) Such report shall be made available to the pub-
“(A) in the case of a Member of Congress until a date that is 6 years from the date the individual ceases to be a Member of Congress; and

“(B) in the case of all other reports filed pursuant to this title, for a period of six years after receipt of the report.

“(3) After the relevant time period identified under paragraph (2), the report shall be destroyed unless needed in an ongoing investigation, except that in the case of an individual who filed the report pursuant to section 101(b) and was not subsequently confirmed by the Senate, or who filed the report pursuant to section 101(c) and was not subsequently elected, such reports shall be destroyed 1 year after the individual either is no longer under consideration by the Senate or is no longer a candidate for nomination or election to the Office of President, Vice President, or as a Member of Congress, unless needed in an ongoing investigation or inquiry.”.