TEXT OF AMENDMENTS -- (Senate - January 31, 2012)

SA 1477. Mr. THUNE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1470 proposed by Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. FRANKEN) to the bill S. 2038, to prohibit Members of Congress and employees of Congress from using nonpublic information derived from their official positions for personal benefit, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. X. MODIFICATION OF EXEMPTION.

(a) Removal of Restriction.--Section 4(2) of the Securities Act of 1933 (15 U.S.C. 77d(2)) is amended by inserting before the period at the end the following: '`, whether or not such transactions involve general solicitation or general advertising'.

(b) Modification of Rules.--Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Securities and Exchange Commission shall revise its rules issued in section 230.506 of title 17, Code of Federal Regulations, to provide that the prohibition against general solicitation or general advertising contained in section 230.502(c) of such title shall not apply to offers and sales of securities made pursuant to section 230.506, provided that all purchasers of the securities are accredited investors. Such rules shall require the issuer to take reasonable steps to verify that purchasers of the securities are accredited investors, using such methods as determined by the Commission.

SA 1478. Mr. BROWN of Ohio submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1470 proposed by Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. FRANKEN) to the bill S. 2038, to prohibit Members of Congress and employees of Congress from using nonpublic information derived from their official positions for personal benefit, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 6, strike lines 12 through 15, and insert the following:

``(j) After any transaction required to be reported under section 102(a)(5)(B), a Member of Congress or officer or employee of Congress shall file a report of the transaction not later than 10 days following the day on which the subject transaction has been executed.''.

On page 9, line 17, strike `"30" and insert `"10".

SA 1479. Mr. HELLER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2038, to prohibit Members of Congress and employees of Congress from using nonpublic information derived from their official positions for personal benefit, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. __X. EXTENSION OF PAY FREEZE FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.

(a) In General.--Section 147 of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2011 (Public Law 111-242; 5 U.S.C. 5303 note) is amended--

(1) in subsection (b)(1), by striking `"December 31, 2012" and inserting `"December 31, 2013"; and

(2) in subsection (c), by striking `"December 31, 2012" and inserting `"December 31, 2013".

(b) Clarification That Freeze Applies to Legislative Branch.--

(1) MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.--Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no adjustment shall be made under section 601(a) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 31) (relating to cost of living adjustments for Members of Congress) during the period beginning on the first day of the first pay period beginning on or after February 1, 2013 and ending on December 31, 2013.

(2) LEGISLATIVE BRANCH EMPLOYEES.--

(A) DEFINITION.--In this paragraph, the term `"legislative branch employee" means--

(i) an employee whose pay is disbursed by the Secretary of the Senate or the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives; and

(ii) an employee of any agency established in the legislative branch.

(B) FREEZE.--Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no cost of living adjustment required by statute with respect to a legislative branch employee which (but for this subparagraph) would otherwise take effect during the period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act and ending on December 31, 2013 shall be made.
Mr. HELLER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2038, to prohibit Members of Congress and employees of Congress from using nonpublic information derived from their official positions for personal benefit, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

TITLE II--NO BUDGET, NO PAY

SECTION 201. SHORT TITLE.
This title may be cited as the `No Budget, No Pay Act".

SECTION 202. DEFINITION.
In this title, the term `Member of Congress"--
(1) has the meaning given under section 2106 of title 5, United States Code; and
(2) does not include the Vice President.

SECTION 203. TIMELY APPROVAL OF CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET AND THE APPROPRIATIONS BILLS.
If both Houses of Congress have not approved a concurrent resolution on the budget as described under section 301 of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 632) for a fiscal year before October 1 of that fiscal year and have not passed all the regular appropriations bills for the next fiscal year before October 1 of that fiscal year, the pay of each Member of Congress may not be paid for each day following that October 1 until the date on which both Houses of Congress approve a concurrent resolution on the budget for that fiscal year and all the regular appropriations bills.

SECTION 204. NO PAY WITHOUT CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET AND THE APPROPRIATIONS BILLS.
(a) In General.--Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no funds may be appropriated or otherwise be made available from the United States Treasury for the pay of any Member of Congress during any period determined by the Chairpersons of the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate or the Chairpersons of the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives under section 205.

(b) No Retroactive Pay.--A Member of Congress may not receive pay for any period determined by the Chairpersons of the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate or the Chairpersons of the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives under section 205, at any time after the end of that period.

SECTION 205. DETERMINATIONS.
(a) Senate.--
(1) REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATIONS.--On October 1 of each year, the Secretary of the Senate shall submit a request to the Chairpersons of the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate for certification of determinations made under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (2).

(2) DETERMINATIONS.--The Chairpersons of the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate shall--
(A) on October 1 of each year, make a determination of whether Congress is in compliance with section 203 and whether Senators may not be paid under that section;
(B) determine the period of days following each October 1 that Senators may not be paid under section 203; and
(C) provide timely certification of the determinations under subparagraphs (A) and (B) upon the request of the Secretary of the Senate.

(b) House of Representatives.--
(1) REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATIONS.--On October 1 of each year, the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives shall submit a request to the Chairpersons of the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives for certification of determinations made under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (2).

(2) DETERMINATIONS.--The Chairpersons of the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives shall--
(A) on October 1 of each year, make a determination of whether Congress is in compliance with section 203 and whether Member of the House of Representatives may not be paid under that section;
(B) determine the period of days following each October 1 that Member of the House of Representatives may not be paid under section 203; and
(C) provide timely certification of the determinations under subparagraph (A) and (B) upon the request of the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives.

SECTION 206. EFFECTIVE DATE.
This title shall take effect on February 1, 2013.
SA 1481. Mr. BROWN of Ohio (for himself and Mr. Merkley) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 1470 proposed by Mr. Reid (for himself, Mr. Brown of Massachusetts, Mr. Lieberman, Ms. Collins, Mrs. Gillibrand, Mr. Levin, and Mr. Franken) to the bill S. 2038, to prohibit Members of Congress and employees of Congress from using nonpublic information derived from their official positions for personal benefit, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ___. PUTTING THE PEOPLE’S INTERESTS FIRST ACT OF 2012.

(a) Short Title.--This section may be cited as the "Putting the People’s Interests First Act of 2012".

(b) Eliminating Financial Conflicts of Interest for Members of the Senate.--A covered person shall be prohibited from holding and shall divest themselves of any covered transaction that is directly and reasonably foreseeably affected by the official actions of such covered person, to avoid any conflict of interest, or the appearance thereof. Any divestiture shall occur within a reasonable period of time.

(c) Definitions.--In this section:

(1) SECURITIES.--The term "securities" has the same meaning as in section 3 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78c).

(2) COVERED PERSON.--The term "covered person" means a Member, officer, or employee of the Senate, their spouse, and their dependents.

(3) COVERED TRANSACTION.--The term "covered transaction" means investment in securities in any company, any comparable economic interest acquired through synthetic means such as the use of derivatives, or short selling any publicly traded securities.

(4) SHORT SELLING.--The term "short selling" means entering into a transaction that has the effect of creating a net short position in a publicly traded company.

(d) Exception.--Nothing in this section shall preclude a covered person from investing in broad-based investments, such as diversified mutual funds and unit investment trusts, sector mutual funds, or employee benefit plans, even if a portion of the funds are invested in a security, so long as the covered person has no control over or knowledge of the management of the investment, other than information made available to the public by the mutual fund.

(e) Trusts.--

(1) IN GENERAL.--On a case-by-case basis, the Select Committee on Ethics may authorize a covered person to place their securities holdings in a qualified blind trust approved by the committee under section 102(f) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978.

(2) BLIND TRUST.--A blind trust permitted under this subsection shall meet the criteria in section 102(f)(4)(B) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, unless an alternative arrangement is approved by the Select Committee on Ethics.

(f) Application.--This section does not apply to an individual employed by the Secretary of the Senate, Sergeant at Arms, the Architect of the Capitol, or the Capitol Police.

SA 1482. Mr. REID (for Mr. Lieberman) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 1470 proposed by Mr. Reid (for himself, Mr. Brown of Massachusetts, Mr. Lieberman, Ms. Collins, Mrs. Gillibrand, Mr. Levin, and Mr. Franken) to the bill S. 2038, to prohibit Members of Congress and employees of Congress from using nonpublic information derived from their official positions for personal benefit, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 7, line 22, after "Reform", insert "and the Committee on the Judiciary".

SA 1483. Mr. LEAHY (for himself and Mr. Cornyn) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 1470 proposed by Mr. Reid (for himself, Mr. Brown of Massachusetts, Mr. Lieberman, Ms. Collins, Mrs. Gillibrand, Mr. Levin, and Mr. Franken) to the bill S. 2038, to prohibit Members of Congress and employees of Congress from using nonpublic information derived from their official positions for personal benefit, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

TITLE II--PUBLIC CORRUPTION PROSECUTION IMPROVEMENTS

SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "Public Corruption Prosecution Improvements Act of 2012".

SEC. 202. VENUE FOR FEDERAL OFFENSES.

(a) In General.--The second undesignated paragraph of section 3237(a) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding before the period at the end the following: "or in any district in which an act in furtherance of the offense is committed".

(b) Section Heading.--The heading for section 3237 of title 18, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

`SEC. 3237. OFFENSE TAKING PLACE IN MORE THAN ONE DISTRICT.'.

(c) Table of Sections.--The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 211 of title 18, United States Code, is amended so that the item relating to section 3237 reads as follows:
SEC. 203. THEFT OR BRIbery CONCERNING PROGRAMS RECEIVING FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

Section 666(a) of title 18, United States Code, is amended--
(1) by striking `10 years'' and inserting `20 years'';
(2) by striking `5,000'' the second place and the third place it appears and inserting `1,000'';
(3) by striking `anything of value'' each place it appears and inserting `any thing or things of value''; and
(4) in paragraph (1)(B), by inserting after `anything'' the following: `or things''.

SEC. 204. PENALTY FOR SECTION 641 VIOLATIONS.

Section 641 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking `ten years'' and inserting `15 years''.

SEC. 205. BRIbery AND Graft; ClARIFICATION OF DEFINITION OF `OFFICIAL ACT''; ClARIFICATION OF THE CRIME OF ILLEGAL GRATUITIES.

(a) Definition.--Section 201(a) of title 18, United States Code, is amended--
(1) in paragraph (2), by striking `and'' at the end;
(2) by amending paragraph (3) to read as follows:
`official act''--
  (A) means any act within the range of official duty, and any decision or action on any question, matter, cause, suit, proceeding, or controversy, which may at any time be pending, or which may by law be brought before any public official, in such public official's official capacity or in such official's place of trust or profit; and
  (B) may be a single act, more than 1 act, or a course of conduct; and''; and
(3) by adding at the end the following:
  (4) the term `rule or regulation' means a Federal regulation or a rule of the House of Representatives or the Senate, including those rules and regulations governing the acceptance of gifts and campaign contributions.''.

(b) Clarification.--Section 201(c)(1) of title 18, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:
  (1) otherwise than as provided by law for the proper discharge of official duty, or by rule or regulation--
  (A) directly or indirectly gives, offers, or promises any thing or things of value to any public official, former public official, or person selected to be a public official for or because of any official act performed or to be performed by such public official, former public official, or person selected to be a public official;
  (B) directly or indirectly, knowingly gives, offers, or promises any thing or things of value with an aggregate value of not less than $1000 to any public official, former public official, or person selected to be a public official for or because of the official's or person's official position;
  (C) being a public official, former public official, or person selected to be a public official, directly or indirectly, knowingly demands, seeks, receives, accepts, or agrees to receive or accept any thing or things of value with an aggregate value of not less than $1000 for or because of the official's or person's official position; or
  (D) being a public official, former public official, or person selected to be a public official, directly or indirectly demands, seeks, receives, accepts, or agrees to receive or accept any thing or things of value for or because of any official act performed or to be performed by such official or person'';

SEC. 206. AMENDMENT OF THE SENTENCING GUIDELINES RELATING TO CERTAIN CRIMES.

(a) Directive to Sentencing Commission.--Pursuant to its authority under section 994(p) of title 28, United States Code, and in accordance with this section, the United States Sentencing Commission forthwith shall review and, if appropriate, amend its guidelines and its policy statements applicable to persons convicted of an offense under section 201, 641, 1346A, or 666 of title 18, United States Code, in order to reflect the intent of Congress that such penalties meet the requirements in subsection (b) of this section.

(b) Requirements.--In carrying out this subsection, the Commission shall--
(1) ensure that the sentencing guidelines and policy statements reflect Congress's intent that the guidelines and policy statements reflect the serious nature of the offenses described in paragraph (1), the incidence of such offenses, and the need for an effective deterrent and appropriate punishment to prevent such offenses;
(2) consider the extent to which the guidelines may or may not appropriately account for--
(A) the potential and actual harm to the public and the amount of any loss resulting from the offense;
(B) the level of sophistication and planning involved in the offense;
(C) whether the offense was committed for purposes of commercial advantage or private financial benefit;
(D) whether the defendant acted with intent to cause either physical or property harm in committing the offense;
(E) the extent to which the offense represented an abuse of trust by the offender and was committed in a manner that undermined public confidence in the Federal, State, or local government; and

(F) whether the violation was intended to or had the effect of creating a threat to public health or safety, injury to any person or even death;

(3) assure reasonable consistency with other relevant directives and with other sentencing guidelines;

(4) account for any additional aggravating or mitigating circumstances that might justify exceptions to the generally applicable sentencing ranges;

(5) make any necessary conforming changes to the sentencing guidelines; and

(6) assure that the guidelines adequately meet the purposes of sentencing as set forth in section 3553(a)(2) of title 18, United States Code.

SEC. 207. EXTENSION OF STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS FOR SERIOUS PUBLIC CORRUPTION OFFENSES.

(a) In General.--Chapter 213 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following: "§3302. Corruption offenses

'`Unless an indictment is returned or the information is filed against a person within 6 years after the commission of the offense, a person may not be prosecuted, tried, or punished for a violation of, or a conspiracy or an attempt to violate the offense in--

'`(1) section 201 or 666;

'`(2) section 1341 or 1343, when charged in conjunction with section 1346 and where the offense involves a scheme or artifice to deprive another of the intangible right of honest services of a public official;

'`(3) section 1951, if the offense involves extortion under color of official right;

'`(4) section 1952, to the extent that the unlawful activity involves bribery; or

'`(5) section 1962, to the extent that the racketeering activity involves bribery chargeable under State law, involves a violation of section 201 or 666, section 1341 or 1343, when charged in conjunction with section 1346 and where the offense involves a scheme or artifice to deprive another of the intangible right of honest services of a public official, or section 1951, if the offense involves extortion under color of official right.'".

(b) Clerical Amendment.--The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 213 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

'`3302. Corruption offenses.".

(c) Application of Amendment.--The amendments made by this section shall not apply to any offense committed before the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 208. INCREASE OF MAXIMUM PENALTIES FOR CERTAIN PUBLIC CORRUPTION RELATED OFFENSES.

(a) Solicitation of Political Contributions.--Section 602(a)(4) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking "`3 years" and inserting "5 years";

(b) Promise of Employment for Political Activity.--Section 600 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking "`one year" and inserting "3 years".

(c) Deprivation of Employment for Political Activity.--Section 601(a) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking "`one year" and inserting "3 years".

(d) Intimidation To Secure Political Contributions.--Section 606 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking "`three years" and inserting "5 years".

(e) Solicitation and Acceptance of Contributions in Federal Offices.--Section 607(a)(2) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking "`3 years" and inserting "5 years".

(f) Coercion of Political Activity by Federal Employees.--Section 610 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking "`three years" and inserting "5 years".

SEC. 209. ADDITIONAL WIRETAP PREDICATES.

Section 2516(1)(c) of title 18, United States Code, is amended--

(1) by inserting "section 641 (relating to embezzlement or theft of public money, property, or records), section 666 (relating to theft or bribery concerning programs receiving Federal funds)," after "section 224 (bribery in sporting contests)"); and

(2) by inserting "section 1031 (relating to major fraud against the United States)" after "section 1014 (relating to loans and credit applications generally; renewals and discounts)");".

SEC. 210. EXPANDING VENUE FOR PERJURY AND OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE PROCEEDINGS.

(a) In General.--Section 1512(i) of title 18, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:
(i) A prosecution under section 1503, 1504, 1505, 1508, 1509, 1510, or this section may be brought in the district in which the conduct constituting the alleged offense occurred or in which the official proceeding (whether or not pending or about to be instituted) was intended to be affected.

(b) Perjury.--

(1) IN GENERAL.--Chapter 79 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following: 

``
§1624. Venue.

1624. Venue.
``

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.--The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 79 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

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§1624. Venue.
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SEC. 211. PROHIBITION ON UNDISCLOSED SELF-DEALING BY PUBLIC OFFICIALS.

(a) In General.--Chapter 63 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 1346 the following new section: 

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§1346A. Undisclosed self-dealing by public officials.

For purposes of this chapter, the term `scheme or artifice to defraud' also includes a scheme or artifice by a public official to engage in undisclosed self-dealing.

(b) Definitions.--As used in this section:

1. (1) OFFICIAL ACT.--The term `official act' means any act within the range of official duty, and any decision or action on any question, matter, cause, suit, proceeding, or controversy, which may at any time be pending, or which may by law be brought before any public official, in such public official's official capacity or in such official's place of trust or profit; and

2. (B) may be a single act, more than one act, or a course of conduct.

(2) PUBLIC OFFICIAL.--The term `public official' means an officer, employee, or elected or appointed representative, or person acting for or on behalf of the United States, a State, or a subdivision of a State, or any department, agency or branch of government thereof, in any official function, under or by authority of any such department, agency, or branch of government.

(3) STATE.--The term `State' includes a State of the United States, the District of Columbia, and any commonwealth, territory, or possession of the United States.

1. (4) UNDISCLOSED SELF-DEALING.--The term `undisclosed self-dealing' means that--

A) a public official performs an official act for the purpose, in whole or in material part, of furthering or benefitting a financial interest, of which the public official has knowledge, of--

1. (i) the public official;

2. (ii) the spouse or minor child of a public official;

3. (iii) a general business partner of the public official;

4. (iv) a business or organization in which the public official is serving as an employee, officer, director, trustee, or general partner;

5. (v) an individual, business, or organization with whom the public official is negotiating for, or has any arrangement concerning, prospective employment or financial compensation; or

6. (vi) an individual, business, or organization from whom the public official has received any thing or things of value, otherwise than as provided by law for the proper discharge of official duty, or by rule or regulation; and

B) the public official knowingly falsifies, conceals, or covers up material information that is required to be disclosed by any Federal, State, or local statute, rule, regulation, or charter applicable to the public official, or the knowing failure of the public official to disclose material information in a manner that is required by any Federal, State, or local statute, rule, regulation, or charter applicable to the public official.

1. (5) MATERIAL INFORMATION.--The term `material information' means information--

A) regarding a financial interest of a person described in clauses (i) through (iv) paragraph (4)(A); and

B) regarding the association, connection, or dealings by a public official with an individual, business, or organization as described in clauses (iii) through (vi) of paragraph (4)(A)."

(b) Conforming Amendment.--The table of sections for chapter 63 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1346 the following new item:

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§1346A. Undisclosed self-dealing by public officials.
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(c) Applicability.--The amendments made by this section apply to acts engaged in on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 212. DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION IN COMPLAINTS AGAINST JUDGES.

Section 360(a) of title 28, United States Code, is amended--
(1) in paragraph (2) by striking ‘‘or’’;
(2) in paragraph (3), by striking the period at the end, and inserting ‘‘; and
(3) by inserting after paragraph (3) the following:
‘‘(4) such disclosure of information regarding a potential criminal offense is made to the Attorney General, a Federal, State, or local grand jury, or a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency.’’.

SEC. 213. CLARIFICATION OF EXEMPTION IN CERTAIN BRIBERY OFFENSES.

Section 666(c) of title 18, United States Code, is amended--

(1) by striking ‘‘This section does not apply to’’; and
(2) by inserting ‘‘The term ‘‘anything of value’’ that is corruptly solicited, demanded, accepted or agreed to be accepted in subsection (a)(1)(B) or corruptly given, offered, or agreed to be given in subsection (a)(2) shall not include,’’ before ‘‘bona fide salary’’.

SEC. 214. CERTIFICATIONS REGARDING APPEALS BY UNITED STATES.

Section 3731 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting after ‘‘United States attorney’’ the following: ‘‘, Deputy Attorney General, Assistant Attorney General, or the Attorney General’’.

SA 1484. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1470 proposed by Mr. Reid (for himself, Mr. Brown of Massachusetts, Ms. Collins, Mrs. Gillibrand, Mr. Levin, and Mr. Franken) to the bill S. 2038, to prohibit Members of Congress and employees of Congress from using nonpublic information derived from their official positions for personal benefit, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. MEMBER CERTIFICATION.

Section 102(a) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 is amended by inserting at the end the following:

‘‘(9)(A) A statement (as provided in subparagraph (B)) certifying that financial transactions included in the report filed pursuant to section 101 (d) and (e) were not made on the basis of non-public information.

‘‘(B) The certification required by this paragraph is as follows: ‘‘I hereby certify that the financial transactions reflected in this disclosure form were not made on the basis of material, non-public information.’’.

SEC. 2. USE OF NONPUBLIC INFORMATION AND INSIDER TRADING BY CONGRESS AND FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.

A Member, officer, or employee of Congress, a Federal employee (as defined in section 2105), including the President, the Vice President, and an employee of the United States Postal Service or the Postal Regulatory Commission, and a judicial officer are not exempt from and is fully subject to the prohibitions arising under section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 10b-5 thereunder, including the insider trading prohibitions.

SA 1485. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1470 proposed by Mr. Reid (for himself, Mr. Brown of Massachusetts, Ms. Collins, Mrs. Gillibrand, Mr. Levin, and Mr. Franken) to the bill S. 2038, to prohibit Members of Congress and employees of Congress from using nonpublic information derived from their official positions for personal benefit, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike section 6 and insert the following:

SEC. 6. PROMPT REPORTING OF FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS.

(a) Reporting Requirement.--Section 101 of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 is amended by adding at the end the following subsection:

‘‘(j) Not later than 30 days after any transaction required to be reported under section 102(a)(5)(B), a Member of Congress or officer or employee of Congress, a Federal employee (as defined in section 2105), including the President, the Vice President, and an employee of the United States Postal Service or the Postal Regulatory Commission, and a judicial officer shall file a report of the transaction.’’.

(b) Effective Date.--The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to transactions occurring on or after the date that is 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

SA 1486. Mr. CORKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2038, to prohibit Members of Congress and employees of Congress from using nonpublic information derived from their official positions for personal benefit, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, insert the following:

SEC. __X__. PROHIBITION AGAINST A FEDERAL PROGRAM OF MORTGAGE PRINCIPAL REDUCTION.

Part 3 of subtitle A of the Federal Housing Enterprise Financial Safety and Soundness Act of 1992 (12 U.S.C. 4601 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:
SEC. 1357. NO FEDERAL BAILOUTS OF RECKLESS BORROWERS.

It shall be unlawful for the Federal Government to reduce the principal of mortgage loans that are held in mortgage-backed securities of the Federal National Mortgage Association or the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation.

SEC. 1358. STATES BEAR THEIR OWN COSTS.

On or before the date that is 6 months after the date of enactment of this section, the Director shall develop a program that--

(1) conforms to all existing pooling and servicing agreements of the enterprises on all outstanding mortgage-backed securities held by the enterprises;

(2) allows for individual States to purchase whole loans out of mortgage-backed securities held by the enterprises for the purposes of reducing principal or performing other loan modifications, as determined appropriate by each individual State;

(3) ensures that the Federal Government is paid at least par, or 100 cents on the dollar, for all whole loans sold out of mortgage-backed securities held by the enterprises to individual States for the purpose of performing loan modifications; and

(4) ensures that the Federal Government is reimbursed by individual States for the entire cost of such program, including administrative costs, so that no cost is borne whatsoever by the Federal Government.

SA 1487. Mr. PAUL proposed an amendment to amendment SA 1470 proposed by Mr. Reid (for himself, Mr. Brown of Massachusetts, Mr. Lieberman, Ms. Collins, Mrs. Gillibrand, Mr. Levin, and Mr. Franken) to the bill S. 2038, to prohibit Members of Congress and employees of Congress from using nonpublic information derived from their official positions for personal benefit, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. 10. LIMITATION ON EXECUTIVE BRANCH OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES INVOLVEMENT IN MATTERS INVOLVING FINANCIAL INTEREST.

The Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App) is amended by adding at the end the following:

TITLE VI--GOVERNMENT-WIDE LIMITATION ON INVOLVEMENT IN MATTERS INVOLVING FINANCIAL INTEREST

SEC. 601. LIMITATION ON INVOLVEMENT.

(a) Definitions.--In this section--

(1) the term 'Executive agency' has the meaning given that term in section 105 of title 5, United States Code;

(2) the term 'equity interest' includes stock, a stock option, and any other ownership interest;

(3) the term 'immediate family member' has the meaning given that term in section 115 of title 18, United States Code;

(4) the term 'remuneration' includes salary and any payment for services not otherwise identified as salary, such as consulting fees, honoraria, and paid authorship; and

(5) the term 'significant financial interest', relating to an individual, means--

(A) with regard to any publicly traded entity, that the sum of the fair market value of any remuneration received by the individual from the entity during the most recent 2-year period and the fair market value of any equity interest of the individual in the entity is more than $5,000; and

(B) with regard to any entity that is not publicly traded--

(i) that the fair market value of any remuneration received by the individual from the entity during the most recent 2-year period is more than $5,000; or

(ii) that the individual has an equity interest in the entity.

(b) Limitation.--An individual may not hold a position as an officer or employee of an Executive agency in which the individual would have oversight, rule-making, loan, or grant-making authority--

(1) over any entity in which the individual or the spouse or other immediate family member of the individual has a significant financial interest; or

(2) the exercise of which could affect the intellectual property rights of the individual or the spouse or other immediate family member of the individual.

SA 1488. Mr. DeMINT (for himself, and Mr. Vitter) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 1470 proposed by Mr. Reid (for himself, Mr. Brown of Massachusetts, Mr. Lieberman, Ms. Collins, Mrs. Gillibrand, Mr. Levin, and Mr. Franken) to the bill
S. 2038, to prohibit Members of Congress and employees of Congress from using nonpublic information derived from their official positions for personal benefit, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ___ X. SENSE OF THE SENATE.

It is the sense of the Senate that the Senate should pass a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution that limits the number of terms a Member of Congress may serve.

SA 1489. Mrs. BOXER (for herself, and Mr. Isakson) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2038, to prohibit Members of Congress and employees of Congress from using nonpublic information derived from their official positions for personal benefit, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

SECTION 9. REQUIRING MORTGAGE DISCLOSURE.

Section 102(a)(4)(A) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App) is amended by inserting after ``spouse'' the following: ", except that this exception shall not apply to a reporting individual described in section 101(f)(9)''.

SA 1490. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1470 proposed by Mr. Reid (for himself, Mr. Brown of Massachusetts, Mr. Lieberman, Ms. Collins, Mrs. Gillibrand, Mr. Levin, and Mr. Franken) to the bill S. 2038, to prohibit Members of Congress and employees of Congress from using nonpublic information derived from their official positions for personal benefit, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ___. FORFEITURE OF CREDIT FOR SERVICE AS A MEMBER IF FORMER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS BECOME LOBBYISTS.

(a) Definitions.--In this section--

(1) the term `creditable service'' means service that is creditable under chapter 83 or 84 of title 5, United States Code;

(2) the term `lobbyist'' has the meaning given that term in section 3 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1602);

(3) the term `Member of Congress'' has the meaning given that term in section 2106 of title 5, United States Code; and

(4) the term `remuneration'' includes salary and any payment for services not otherwise identified as salary, such as consulting fees, honoraria, and paid authorship.

(b) Forfeiture of Credit for Service.--Any service as a Member of Congress shall not be creditable service if the Member of Congress, after serving as a Member of Congress--

(1) becomes a registered lobbyist;

(2) accepts any remuneration from a company or other private entity that employs registered lobbyists; or

(3) accepts any remuneration from a company or other private entity that does business with the Federal Government.

SA 1491. Mr. SHELBY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2038, to prohibit Members of Congress and employees of Congress from using nonpublic information derived from their official positions for personal benefit, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 7, line 7, strike `a'' and insert `each officer or employee as referred to in subsection (f), including each''.

On page 7, line 8 insert a comma after `employee of Congress''.

At the end, insert the following:

`SEC. 11. PROMPT REPORTING AND PUBLIC FILING OF FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS FOR EXECUTIVE BRANCH.

Each agency or department of the Executive branch and each independent agency shall comply with the provisions of section 8 with respect to any of such agency, department or independent agency's officers and employees that are subject to the disclosure provisions under the Ethics in Government Act of 1978.''.

SA 1492. Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mr. Toomey) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2038, to prohibit Members of Congress and employees of Congress from using nonpublic information derived from their official positions for personal benefit, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, insert the following:

SEC. ___ X. SMALL COMPANY CAPITAL FORMATION ACT OF 2012.

(a) Short Title.--This section may be cited as the `Small Company Capital Formation Act of 2012''.

http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/C?r112:/temp/~r112qOvMPG 2/1/2012

(b) Authority to Exempt Certain Securities.--

(1) IN GENERAL.--Section 3(b) of the Securities Act of 1933 (15 U.S.C. 77c(b)) is amended--

(A) by striking ` `(b) The Commission’” and inserting the following:

` `(2) ADDITIONAL EXEMPTIONS.--

` `(A) SMALL ISSUES EXEMPTIVE AUTHORITY.--The Commission’”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

` `(B) ADDITIONAL ISSUES.--The Commission shall by rule or regulation add a class of securities to the securities exempted pursuant to this section in accordance with the following terms and conditions:

` `(i) The aggregate offering amount of all securities offered and sold within the prior 12-month period in reliance on the exemption added in accordance with this paragraph shall not exceed $50,000,000.

` `(ii) The securities may be offered and sold publicly.

` `(iii) The securities shall not be restricted securities within the meaning of the Federal securities laws and the regulations promulgated thereunder.

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` `(iv) The civil liability provision in section 12(a)(2) shall apply to any person offering or selling such securities.

` `(v) The issuer may solicit interest in the offering prior to filing any offering statement, on such terms and conditions as the Commission may prescribe in the public interest or for the protection of investors.

` `(vi) The Commission shall require the issuer to file audited financial statements with the Commission annually.

` `(vii) Such other terms, conditions, or requirements as the Commission may determine necessary in the public interest and for the protection of investors, which may include--

` `(I) a requirement that the issuer prepare and electronically file with the Commission and distribute to prospective investors an offering statement, and any related documents, in such form and with such content as prescribed by the Commission, including audited financial statements and a description of the issuer’s business operations, its financial condition, its corporate governance principles, its use of investor funds, and other appropriate matters; and

` `(II) disqualification provisions under which the exemption shall not be available to the issuer or its predecessors, affiliates, officers, directors, underwriters, or other related persons, which shall be substantially similar to the disqualification provisions contained in the regulations adopted in accordance with section 926 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (15 U.S.C. 77d note).

` `(C) LIMITATION.--Only the following types of securities may be exempted under a rule or regulation adopted pursuant to paragraph (2): equity securities, debt securities, and debt securities convertible or exchangeable to equity interests, including any guarantees of such securities.

` `(D) PERIODIC DISCLOSURES.--Upon such terms and conditions as the Commission determines necessary in the public interest and for the protection of investors, the Commission by rule or regulation may require an issuer of a class of securities exempted under paragraph (2) to make available to investors and file with the Commission periodic disclosures regarding the issuer, its business operations, its financial condition, its corporate governance principles, its use of investor funds, and other appropriate matters, and also may provide for the suspension and termination of such a requirement with respect to that issuer.

` `(E) ADJUSTMENT.--Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the Small Company Capital Formation Act of 2011 and every 2 years thereafter, the Commission shall review the offering amount limitation described in paragraph (2)(A) and shall increase such amount as the Commission determines appropriate. If the Commission determines not to increase such amount, it shall report to the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate on its reasons for not increasing the amount."

(2) TREATMENT AS COVERED SECURITIES FOR PURPOSES OF NSMIA.--Section 18(b)(4) of the Securities Act of 1933 (15 U.S.C. 77r(b)(4)) is amended--

(A) in subparagraph (C), by striking ` `; or’’ at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(B) by redesignating subparagraph (D) as subparagraph (E), and inserting after subparagraph (C) the following:

` `(d) a rule or regulation adopted pursuant to section 3(b)(2) and such security is--

` `(I) offered or sold on a national securities exchange; or

` `(II) offered or sold to a qualified purchaser as defined by the Commission pursuant to paragraph (3) with respect to that purchase or sale.”.

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.--Section 4(5) of the Securities Act of 1933 is amended by striking ` `section 3(b)” and inserting ` `section 3(b)(1)”.

(c) Study on the Impact of State Blue Sky Laws on Regulation a Offerings.--Not later than 3 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall--

(1) conduct a study on the impact of State laws regulating securities offerings (commonly referred to as ` `Blue Sky laws”’’) on offerings made under Regulation A (17 C.F.R. 230.251 et seq.); and
(A) transmit a report on the findings of the study to the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate.

SA 1493. Mr. GRASSLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2038, to prohibit Members of Congress and employees of Congress from using nonpublic information derived from their official positions for personal benefit, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

SEC. ___. DISCLOSURE OF POLITICAL INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES UNDER LOBBYING DISCLOSURE ACT.

(a) Definitions.--Section 3 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1602) is amended--

(1) in paragraph (2)---

(A) by inserting after "lobbying activities" each place that term appears the following: "or political intelligence activities"; and

(B) by inserting after "lobbyists" the following: "or political intelligence consultants"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

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\`\` (17) POLITICAL INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES.--The term "political intelligence activities" means political intelligence contacts and efforts in support of such contacts, including preparation and planning activities, research, and other background work that is intended, at the time it is performed, for use in analyzing securities or commodities markets, or in informing investment decisions, and which is made on behalf of a client with regard to--

\`\` (i) the formulation, modification, or adoption of Federal legislation (including legislative proposals);

\`\` (ii) the formulation, modification, or adoption of a Federal rule, regulation, Executive order, or any other program, policy, or position of the United States Government; or

\`\` (iii) the administration or execution of a Federal program or policy (including the negotiation, award, or administration of a Federal contract, grant, loan, permit, or license).

\`\` (18) POLITICAL INTELLIGENCE CONTACT.--

\`\` (A) DEFINITION.--The term "political intelligence contact" means any oral or written communication (including an electronic communication) to or from a covered executive branch official or a covered legislative branch official, the information derived from which is intended for use in analyzing securities or commodities markets, or in informing investment decisions, and which is made on behalf of a client with regard to--

\`\` (i) the formulation, modification, or adoption of Federal legislation (including legislative proposals);

\`\` (ii) the formulation, modification, or adoption of a Federal rule, regulation, Executive order, or any other program, policy, or position of the United States Government; or

\`\` (iii) the administration or execution of a Federal program or policy (including the negotiation, award, or administration of a Federal contract, grant, loan, permit, or license).

\`\` (B) EXCEPTION.--The term "political intelligence contact" does not include a communication that is made by or to a representative of the media if the purpose of the communication is gathering and disseminating news and information to the public.

\`\` (19) POLITICAL INTELLIGENCE FIRM.--The term "political intelligence firm" means a person or entity that has 1 or more employees who are political intelligence consultants to a client other than that person or entity.

\`\` (20) POLITICAL INTELLIGENCE CONSULTANT.--The term "political intelligence consultant" means any individual who is employed or retained by a client for financial or other compensation for services that include one or more political intelligence contacts.

(b) Registration Requirement.--Section 4 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1603) is amended--

(1) in subsection (a)---

(A) in paragraph (1)---

(i) by inserting after "whichever is earlier," the following: "or a political intelligence consultant first makes a political intelligence contact,"; and

(ii) by inserting after "such lobbyist" each place that term appears the following: "or consultant";

(B) in paragraph (2), by inserting after "lobbyists" each place that term appears the following: "or political intelligence consultants"; and

(C) in paragraph (3)(A)---

(i) by inserting after "lobbying activities" each place that term appears the following: "and political intelligence activities"; and

(ii) in clause (i), by inserting after "lobbying firm" the following: "or political intelligence firm";

(2) in subsection (b)---

(A) in paragraph (3), by inserting after "lobbying activities" each place that term appears the following: "or political intelligence activities";

(B) in paragraph (4)---

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting after "lobbying activities" the following: "or political intelligence activities"; and

(ii) in subparagraph (C), by inserting after "lobbying activity" the following: "or political intelligence activity";
(C) in paragraph (5), by inserting after "lobbying activities" each place that term appears the following: "or political intelligence activities";

(D) in paragraph (6), by inserting after "lobbyist" each place that term appears the following: "or political intelligence consultant"; and

(E) in the matter following paragraph (6), by inserting "or political intelligence activities" after "such lobbying activities";

(3) in subsection (c)--

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting after "lobbying contacts" the following: "or political intelligence contacts"; and

(B) in paragraph (2)--

(i) by inserting after "lobbying contact" the following: "or political intelligence contact"; and

(ii) by inserting after "lobbying contacts" the following: "and political intelligence contacts"; and

(4) in subsection (d), by inserting after "lobbying activities" each place that term appears the following: "or political intelligence activities";

(c) Reports by Registered Political Intelligence Consultants.--Section 5 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1604) is amended--

(1) in subsection (a), by inserting after "lobbying activities" the following: "and political intelligence activities";

(2) in subsection (b)--

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting after "lobbyists" the following: "or political intelligence consultants";

(B) in paragraph (3)--

(i) by inserting after "lobbying firm" the following: "or political intelligence firm"; and

(ii) by inserting after "lobbying activities" each place that term appears the following: "and political intelligence activities"; and

(C) in paragraph (4), by inserting after "lobbying activities" each place that term appears the following: "or political intelligence activities"; and

(3) in subsection (d)(1), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting "or a political intelligence consultant" after "a lobbyist".

d) Disclosure and Enforcement.--Section 6(a) of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1605) is amended--

(1) in paragraph (3)(A), by inserting after "lobbying firms" the following: "political intelligence consultants, political intelligence firms,";

(2) in paragraph (7), by striking "or lobbying firm" and inserting "lobbying firm, political intelligence consultant, or political intelligence firm"; and

(3) in paragraph (8), by striking "or lobbying firm" and inserting "lobbying firm, political intelligence consultant, or political intelligence firm".

(e) Rules of Construction.--Section 8(b) of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1607(b)) is amended by striking "or lobbying contacts" and inserting "lobbying contacts, political intelligence activities, or political intelligence contacts".

(f) Identification of Clients and Covered Officials.--Section 14 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1609) is amended--

(1) in subsection (a)--

(A) in the heading, by inserting "or Political Intelligence" after "Lobbying";

(B) by inserting "or political intelligence contact" after "lobbying contact" each place that term appears; and

(C) in paragraph (2), by inserting "or political intelligence activity, as the case may be" after "lobbying activity";

(2) in subsection (b)--

(A) in the heading, by inserting "or Political Intelligence" after "Lobbying";
(B) by inserting `or political intelligence contact’ after `lobbying contact’ each place that term appears; and
(C) in paragraph (2), by inserting `or political intelligence activity, as the case may be’ after `lobbying activity’; and
(3) in subsection (c), by inserting `or political intelligence contact’ after `lobbying contact’.
(g) Annual Audits and Reports by Comptroller General.—Section 26 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1614) is amended
(1) in subsection (a)—
(A) by inserting `political intelligence firms, political intelligence consultants,’ after `lobbying firms’; and
(B) by striking `lobbying registrations’ and inserting `registrations’;
(2) in subsection (b)(1)(A), by inserting `political intelligence firms, political intelligence consultants,’ after `lobbying firms’; and
(3) in subsection (c), by inserting `or political intelligence consultant’ after `a lobbyist’.

SA 1494. Mr. WYDEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1470 proposed by Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. GILLBRAND, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. FRANKEN) to the bill S. 2038, to prohibit Members of Congress and employees of Congress from using nonpublic information derived from their official positions for personal benefit, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 7, strike lines 6 through 9 and insert the following:
``j) Not later than 30 days after any transaction required to be reported under section 102(a)(5)(B), a Member of Congress or officer or employee of Congress, executive branch employee, and any non-military individual appointed by the President shall file a report of the transaction.’’.

At the end of the amendment, insert the following:

SEC. 10. EXECUTIVE BRANCH REPORTING.

Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Office of Personnel Management shall establish a central reporting database that complies with the requirements of section 8 for all agencies and departments of the Executive branch and each independent agency.

SA 1495. Mr. UDALL of Colorado (for Mr. INOUYE) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 286, recognizing May 16, 2012, as Hereditary Angioedema Awareness Day and expressing the sense of the Senate that more research and treatments are needed for Hereditary Angioedema; as follows:

Beginning on page 3, strike line 8 and all that follows through line 18 on page 4 and insert the following: `the public.’’.

END