

**SUMMARY OF FEDERAL ELECTION REFORM LEGISLATION
INTRODUCED IN THE 112TH CONGRESS**

This is a brief summary of federal election reform legislation introduced in the 112th Congress. Senate bills are listed first, in order of introduction, followed by House bills. Although the descriptions of each bill are not comprehensive, each bill summary includes hyperlinks for more information.

INTRODUCED IN THE SENATE

Bill No.: S. 111 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Voting Integrity and Verification Act of 2011

Sponsors: Senator John Ensign (R-NV)

Date Introduced: January 25, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Voting Systems

Description: This bill would amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require each voting system purchased after December 31, 2012, and used in an election for federal office to produce an individual permanent paper record for each ballot that is cast.

This bill would also require the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to establish a program to award cash prizes competitively to eligible persons that advance the research, development, demonstration, and application of voting systems which are specifically designed to enhance accessibility and provide independence for persons with disabilities during the voting process.

Bill No.: S. 168 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Voter Fraud Prevention Act

Sponsors: Senator David Vitter (R-LA) and 3 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: January 25, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Voter Registration

Description: This bill would amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to prescribe standards for paid distribution of voter registration application forms and registration requirements for organizations.

This bill would also prohibit any individual from distributing, for compensation, a voter registration application form for federal elections in a state if the individual: (1) has been convicted of a felony under any state or federal law; (2) does not sign and print legibly the individual's name on the form; (3) does not provide identifying information to the proper election official; or (4) does not certify, under penalty of perjury, that he or she has not received financial compensation based on the number of voter registration application forms submitted by the individual to an election official upon completion by the applicant, and that the information provided by the individual is accurate to the best of the individual's knowledge.

Bill No.: S. 194 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: A bill to reduce Federal spending and the deficit by terminating taxpayer financing of presidential election campaigns and party conventions

Sponsors: Senator Mitch McConnell (R-KY) and 3 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: January 26, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Campaign Finance Reform

Description: This bill would amend the Internal Revenue Code to terminate the taxpayer election to designate \$3 of income tax liability for financing of presidential election campaigns, the Presidential Election Campaign Fund, and the Presidential Primary Matching Payment Account.

Bill No.: S. 331 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Military and Overseas Voters' Relief Act

Sponsors: Senator John Barrasso (R-WY) and 2 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: February 14, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Military and Overseas Voting, Absentee Ballots

Description: This bill would amend the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (the Act) to allow any person aggrieved by a violation of voting rights under the Act to bring a civil action for necessary declaratory or injunctive relief. (Under current law, only the Attorney General may bring such an action.) This bill would allow for the award of reasonable attorney's fees for the prevailing party.

This bill would require a report from the Attorney General in each year in which a general election for federal office is scheduled on the number of attorneys and other staff within the Department of Justice (DOJ) assigned to enforce the Act, as well as a plan to detect noncompliance by state and local election officials with requirements of the law.

Bill No.: S. 749 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Fair Elections Revenue Act of 2011

Sponsors: Senator Richard Durbin (D-IL) and 12 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: April 6, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Campaign Finance Reform

Description: This bill would amend the Internal Revenue Code to impose an excise tax on payments made pursuant to a U.S. government contract to any person that is not a state or local government, a foreign nation, or a tax-exempt organization and that has contracts with the U.S. government in excess of \$10 million. Sets the rate of such tax imposed on any payment to a qualified person under any such contract at 0.50% of the amount paid and limits the aggregate annual amount of tax so imposed for any calendar year to not more than \$500,000.

This bill would express the sense of the Senate that the tax revenues raised by this Act should be used for the financing of a Fair Elections Fund and the public financing of Senate elections.

Bill No.: S. 750 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Fair Elections Now Act

Sponsors: Senator Richard Durbin (D-IL) and 13 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: April 6, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Campaign Finance Reform

Description: This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (FECA) with respect to: (1) eligibility and qualifying contribution requirements and benefits of fair elections financing of Senate election campaigns, (2) establishment of a Fair Elections Fund, (3) eligibility for Fund allocations, (4) contribution and expenditure requirements, (5) a public debate requirement, (6) certification of whether or not a federal election candidate is a participating candidate, (7) benefits for participating candidates, (8) 500% matching payments to candidates for certain small dollar contributions, (9) political advertising vouchers, (10) establishment of a Fair Elections Oversight Board, (11) civil penalties for violation of contribution and

expenditure requirements, (12) prohibition of joint fundraising committees with any political committee other than a candidate's authorized committee, and (13) an exception to a specified limitation on coordinated expenditures by political party committees with participating candidates for any expenditure from a qualified political party-participating candidate coordinated expenditure fund.

This bill would amend the Communications Act of 1934 to: (1) prohibit the preemption of the use of a broadcasting station by a legally qualified Senate candidate who has purchased and paid for such use, (2) revise Federal Communications Commission (FCC) authority to revoke licenses for broadcasting stations who fail to provide access to Senate candidates, and (3) revise the formula for determining reduced broadcast rates for participating candidates in certain circumstances.

This bill would direct the FCC to initiate a rulemaking proceeding to establish a standardized form to be used by broadcasting stations to record and report the purchase of advertising time by or on behalf of a candidate for nomination for election, or for election, to federal elective office.

This bill would amend FECA to: (1) empower the Federal Election Commission (FEC) to petition the U.S. Supreme Court for a writ of certiorari to appeal a civil action; (2) require all designations, statements, and reports required to be filed under FECA to be filed directly with the FEC, and in computer-accessible electronic form; and (3) reduce from 48 to 24 hours after their receipt the deadline for the FEC to make designations, statements, reports, or notifications available to the public in the FEC office and on the Internet.

Bill No.: S. 1264 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Veteran Voting Support Act of 2011

Sponsors: Senator Diane Feinstein (D-CA) and 4 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: June 23, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Voter Registration, Military and Overseas Voting

Description: This bill would direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide mail voter registration application forms to each veteran who: (1) seeks to enroll in the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) health care system at the time of such enrollment; and (2) is already enrolled in such system when there is a change in the veteran's enrollment status or when there is a change in the veteran's address.

This bill would also require the Secretary to accept completed application forms for transmittal to appropriate state election officials. Instructs that forms accepted at VA medical centers, community living centers, community-based outpatient centers, and domiciliaries be transmitted within ten days of acceptance, unless a completed form is accepted within five days before the last day for registration to vote in an election

in which case the application shall be transmitted to the appropriate state election official within five days of acceptance.

This bill would prohibit any information relating to registering to vote or a declination to register to vote under this Act from being used for any purpose other than voter registration.

This bill would require each Director of a VA community living center, domiciliary, or medical center to provide assistance in voting by absentee ballot to resident veterans. This bill would also require such assistance to include: (1) providing information relating to the opportunity to request an absentee ballot; (2) making available absentee ballot applications upon request, as well as assisting in completing such applications and ballots; and (3) working with local election administration officials to ensure the proper transmission of the applications and ballots.

This bill would direct the Secretary to permit nonpartisan organizations to provide voter registration information and assistance at facilities of the VA health care system.

This bill would prohibit the Secretary from banning any election administration official, whether state or local, party-affiliated or non-party affiliated, or elected or appointed, from providing voting information to veterans at any VA facility.

This bill would direct the Secretary to provide reasonable access to facilities of the VA health care system to state and local election officials for the purpose of providing nonpartisan voter registration services to individuals.

Bill No.: S. 1360 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Shareholder Protection Act of 2011

Sponsors: Senator Robert Menendez (D-NJ) and 12 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: July 13, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Campaign Finance Reform

Description: This bill would amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require that any solicitation of a proxy, consent, or authorization with respect to any security of an issuer: (1) describe the specific nature (to the extent known) and total amount of expenditures proposed for political activities for the forthcoming fiscal year but not yet authorized by a vote of the issuer's shareholders, and (2) provide for a separate shareholder vote to authorize such proposed expenditures.

This bill would prohibit an issuer from making an expenditure for political activities in any fiscal year unless: (1) such expenditure is of the nature of those proposed by the issuer according to the requirements of this Act; and (2) authorization for such expenditure has been granted by votes representing a majority of outstanding shares.

This bill would deem a violation of this requirement to be a breach of the fiduciary duty of the officers and directors who authorized such expenditure. This bill would also subject officers and directors who authorize the expenditure without prior shareholder authorization to joint and several liability to any shareholder or class of shareholders for the amount of such expenditure.

This bill would require certain institutional investment managers to disclose annually in mandatory reports how they voted (proxies) in certain shareholder votes. This bill would prohibit any person from bringing any civil, criminal, or administrative action against an institutional investment manager, or any of its employees, officers, or directors, based solely upon the investment manager's decision to divest from, or not to invest in, securities of an issuer because of expenditures for political activities made by that issuer.

This bill would require the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) to direct the national securities exchanges and national securities associations to prohibit the listing of any equity security of an issuer whose corporate bylaws do not expressly provide for a vote of the issuer's directors on any individual expenditure for political activities in excess of \$50,000. This bill would also require an issuer to make public, within 48 hours, the individual votes of the directors regarding any such expenditure.

This bill would direct the SEC to: (1) require issuers to disclose expenditures for political activities made during the preceding quarter and the individual votes by board members authorizing such expenditures; and (2) make such reports publicly available through the SEC website.

This bill would require the SEC to make annual assessments of the compliance by public corporations and their management with the reporting and disclosure requirements of this Act, and the Comptroller General (GAO) to evaluate periodically the effectiveness of SEC oversight of these requirements.

Bill No.:	S. 1498 [VIEW BILL TEXT]
Short Title:	A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide for additional reporting with respect to contributions to members of the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction.
Sponsors:	Senator David Vitter (R-LA) and 1 Cosponsor [VIEW ALL]
Date Introduced:	August 2, 2011 [VIEW STATUS]
Key Issues:	Campaign Finance Reform
Description:	This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to require each authorized election campaign committee of a member of the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction to report any contribution of \$1,000 or more received by it or

by the member between the member's appointment to the Joint Select Committee and January 31, 2012.

Bill No.: S. 1994 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]
Short Title: Deceptive Practices and Voter Intimidation Prevention Act of 2011
Sponsors: Senator Charles E. Schumer (D-NY) and 5 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]
Date Introduced: December 14, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]
Key Issues: Voter ID, Deceptive Practices, Election Day Registration

Bill No.: S. 2017 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]
Short Title: Democracy Restoration Act of 2011
Sponsors: Senator Benjamin L. Cardin (D-MD) and 2 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: December 16, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Voting Rights Restoration

Description: This bill would declare that the right of a U.S. citizen to vote in any election for federal office shall not be denied or abridged because that individual has been convicted of a criminal offense unless, at the time of the election, such individual is serving a felony sentence in a correctional institution or facility. This bill would provide for enforcement and remedies for violations of this Act. This bill would specify that: (1) nothing in this Act shall be construed to prohibit a state from enacting any state law that affords the right to vote in any election for federal office on terms less restrictive than those terms established by this Act; and (2) the rights and remedies established by this Act shall be in addition to all other rights and remedies provided by law, and shall not supersede, restrict, or limit the application of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 or the National Voter Registration Act of 1993.

This bill would also prohibit any state, unit of local government, or other person from receiving or using any federal grant amounts to construct or improve a place of incarceration unless that person has a program to notify each U.S. citizen incarcerated in that person's jurisdiction, on release from such incarceration, of that individual's rights under this Act.

Bill No.: S. 2219 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Democracy is Strengthened by Casting Light on Spending in Elections Act of 2012 or the “DISCLOSE Act of 2012”

Sponsors: Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) and 39 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: March 21, 2012 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Campaign Finance Reform

Description: This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide for additional disclosure requirements for corporations, labor organizations, Super PACs and other entities, and for other purposes.

INTRODUCED IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Bill No.: H.R. 107 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Caging Prohibition Act of 2011

Sponsors: Representative John Conyers (D-MI)

Date Introduced: January 5, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Voter Caging

Description: This bill would amend the federal criminal code to prohibit state or local election officials from preventing an individual from registering or voting in any election for federal office, or from permitting a formal challenge under state law to an individual's registration status or eligibility to vote, if the basis for such decision is evidence consisting of: (1) a voter caging document or voter caging list; (2) an unverified match list; (3) an error or omission on voter application or registration documents that is not material to an individual's eligibility to vote; or (4) any other evidence so designated by the Election Assistance Commission.

Bill No.: H.R. 108 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Voting Opportunity and Technology Enhancement Rights Act of 2011

Sponsors: Representative John Conyers (D-MI)

Date Introduced: January 5, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Absentee Ballots, Voting Systems, Provisional Ballots, Election Resource Allocation, Election Day Registration, Purges, Early Voting, Election Day Holiday, Voter Registration, Voter ID, Impartial Election Administration, Voting Rights Restoration, Deceptive Practices, Caging

Description: This omnibus bill would provide for a variety of election reforms, including:

Absentee Ballots: This bill would permit the use of a federal write-in absentee ballot by anyone who is eligible to vote in federal elections. The voter may designate a candidate by writing in the candidate's name or write in the name of a political party (in which case, the ballot will be counted for the candidate of the political party). Abbreviations, misspellings, or other minor variations in candidate or political party names will not make a ballot invalid.

Voting Systems: This bill would mandate voter-verifiable records on all voting systems including means of verification for people with disabilities. It would also require the use of publicly available open source software on voting systems.

Provisional Ballots: This bill would require states to count provisional ballots cast at the incorrect poll sites if they are otherwise eligible.

Election Resource Allocation: This bill would require states to ensure that a minimum number of election resources such as voting machines and poll workers are allocated to poll sites.

Election Day Registration: This bill would require states to allow people to register to vote and to vote on the day of a federal election.

Purges: This bill would require states to post public notices of purges of names from the voter rolls at least 45 days before a federal election. It would also require states to mail voters notices of the intention to purge their names from the rolls.

Early Voting: This bill would require states to permit early voting at least 15 days before a federal election. It also establishes requirements for poll sites where early voting is permitted.

Election Day Holiday: This bill would make Election Day a legal public holiday beginning in 2010. It would also require a study of the impact this has on voter turnout.

Voter Registration: This bill would permit voter registration applicants to sign an affidavit attesting to citizenship and age eligibility in lieu of checking the age and citizenship boxes on a voter registration form. It would also require states to establish online voter registration.

Voter ID: This bill would add as acceptable proof of identity for in-person voting and voting by mail an executed affidavit attesting to one's identity.

Impartial Election Administration: This bill would require states to post public notices of changes in state election laws at least 15 days before federal elections. It would also require states to treat election observers in a uniform and nondiscriminatory manner.

Restoring Voting Rights: This bill establishes that the right to vote in any election for federal office shall not be denied because past of conviction of a criminal offense unless, at the time of the election, the individual is serving a felony sentence in a correctional institution or facility. Individuals are required to be informed of their right to vote upon completion of their term of imprisonment.

Deceptive Practices: This bill amends the federal criminal code to prohibit deceptive practices in federal elections, modify the penalty for voter intimidation.

Caging: This bill would prohibit election officials from denying the right to vote to individuals on the basis of documents developed through voter caging and other questionable challenges.

Bill No.: H.R. 138 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Ethics in Foreign Lobbying Act of 2011

Sponsors: Representative Marcy Kaptur (D-OH)

Date Introduced: January 5, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Campaign Finance Reform

Description: This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit contributions and expenditures in federal elections by multicandidate political committees or separate segregated funds sponsored by foreign-controlled corporations and associations (at least 50% owned by a non-U.S. citizen or foreign national). It would set forth ownership and operating fund reporting requirements.

This bill would also prohibit a foreign national from participating in the decision-making process of any person's election-related activities (such as those of a corporation, labor organization, or political committee). It would establish within the Federal Election Commission (FEC) a clearinghouse of existing public information regarding the political activities of foreign principals and agents of foreign principals. It would also amend the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938 to: (1) revise foreign agents' supplemental reporting requirements; and (2) provide civil penalties for specified reporting violations.

Bill No.: H.R. 267 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: District of Columbia House Voting Rights Act of 2011

Sponsors: Representative Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC) and 15 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: January 12, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: DC Voting Rights

Description: This bill would provide for the treatment of the District of Columbia as a State for purposes of representation in the House of Representatives, and for other purposes.

Bill No.: H.R. 268 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: To amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to reduce the limit on the amount of certain contributions which may be made to a candidate with respect to an election for Federal office.

Sponsors: Representative Michael Capuano (D-MA)

Date Introduced: January 12, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Campaign Finance Reform

Description: This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to reduce from \$2,000 to \$1,000 the maximum amount of contributions that any person may make to any candidate with respect to election for federal office.

This bill would also require adjustment to such amount (indexing) for inflation after 2014.

Bill No.: H.R. 269 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Leadership PAC Limitation Act

Sponsors: Representative Michael Capuano (D-MA)

Date Introduced: January 12, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Campaign Finance Reform

Description: This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit the conversion of leadership PAC funds to personal use.

Bill No.: H.R. 359 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: To reduce Federal spending and the deficit by terminating taxpayer financing of presidential election campaigns and party conventions.

Sponsors: Representative Tom Cole (R-OK) and 20 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: January 20, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Campaign Finance Reform

Description: This bill would amend the Internal Revenue Code to terminate: (1) the taxpayer election to designate \$3 of income tax liability for financing of presidential election campaigns; (2) the Presidential Election Campaign Fund; and (3) the Presidential Primary Matching Payment Account.

This bill would also require the Secretary of the Treasury to transfer all amounts in the Presidential Election Campaign Fund after its termination to the general fund of the Treasury, to be used only for deficit reduction.

Bill No.: H.R. 406 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: To amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to permit candidates for election for Federal office to designate an individual who will be authorized to disburse funds of the authorized campaign committees of the candidate in the event of the death of the candidate.

Sponsors: Representative Walter Jones (R-NC) and 1 Cosponsor [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: January 24, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Campaign Finance Reform

Description: This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to permit candidates for election to federal office to: (1) designate an individual for each of a candidate's authorized campaign committees who will be authorized to disburse funds of the committee in the event of the candidate's death; and (2) designate another individual to carry out the responsibilities of the designated individual in the event of the death or incapacity of the designated individual or the designated individual's unwillingness to carry out the responsibilities.

This bill would also prescribe procedures for filing and revoking such a designation. It would permit the filing of a designation to contain the candidate's instructions regarding the disbursement of funds.

Bill No.: H.R. 414 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Presidential Funding Act

Sponsors: Representative David Price (D-NC) and 13 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: January 25, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Campaign Finance Reform

Description: This bill would amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform the system of public financing for Presidential elections, and for other purposes.

Bill No.: H.R. 419 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Redistricting Transparency Act of 2011

Sponsors: Representative Jim Cooper (D-TN) and 22 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: January 25, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Redistricting

Description: This bill would require states to carry out congressional redistricting in accordance with a process under which members of the public are informed of redistricting proposals via the Internet and have the opportunity to participate in the development of such proposals prior to their adoption.

This bill would also require each state redistricting entity to establish and maintain a public Internet site meeting specified requirements.

This bill would require the state redistricting entity to: (1) solicit the input of members of the public in its work to develop initial congressional redistricting plans for the state; and (2) post the proposed final plan on the Internet site 10 days before its adoption, as well as seven days after its adoption, together with a map, the reasons for adoption, dissenting opinions, and certain other information.

Bill No.: H.R. 423 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Member Address Privacy and Protection Act

Sponsors: Representative Joe Baca (D-CA) and 3 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: January 25, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Other

Description: This bill would amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require the appropriate state or local official to provide adequate technological security measures to prevent the addresses of the residences of Members of Congress from appearing on the computerized statewide voter registration lists required to be maintained by states under such Act.

This bill would also authorize a Member seeking election for public office to meet any state law requirement to provide the appropriate election official with the Member's home address by filing an affidavit with the chief election official certifying that the Member is a state resident.

Bill No.: H.R. 453 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: John Tanner Fairness and Independence in Redistricting Act

Sponsors: Representative Heath Schuler (D-NC) and 21 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: January 26, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Redistricting

Description: This bill would prohibit a state that has been redistricted after an apportionment from being redistricted again until after the next apportionment of Representatives, unless the state is ordered by a court to conduct such a subsequent redistricting in order to: (1) comply with the U.S. Constitution, or (2) enforce the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

This bill would also require such redistricting to be conducted through a plan developed by the independent redistricting commission established in the state, or if such plan is not enacted into law, the redistricting plan selected by the state's highest court or developed by a U.S. district court.

This bill would prescribe requirements for: (1) establishment of a state independent redistricting commission (including provisions for holding each of its meetings in public and maintaining a public Internet site), (2) development of a redistricting plan (including soliciting and considering public comments) and its submission to the state legislature (with public notice of plans at least seven days prior to such submission), (3) selection of a plan, under specified conditions, by the state's highest court or the U.S. district court for the district in which the capital of the state is located, (4) special rules for redistricting conducted under a federal court order, and (5) Election Assistance Commission payments to states for carrying out redistricting.

Bill No.: H.R. 590 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Redistricting Reform Act of 2011

Sponsors: Representative Zoe Lofgren (D-CA) and 11 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: February 9, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Redistricting

Description: This bill would prohibit a state that has been redistricted after an apportionment from being redistricted again until after the next apportionment of Representatives, unless the state is ordered by a court to conduct such a subsequent redistricting in order to: (1) comply with the U.S. Constitution, or (2) enforce the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

This bill would require such redistricting to be conducted according to: (1) a plan developed by the independent redistricting commission established in the state; or (2) if such plan is not enacted into law, the redistricting plan selected by the state's highest court or developed by a U.S. district court.

This bill would provide for: (1) establishment by each state of an independent redistricting commission; (2) development by such commission of a redistricting plan; (3) submission of the plan to, and consideration and enactment of a plan by, the state legislature; (4) selection of a plan by the state's highest court or development of a plan by the U.S. district court, under specified conditions; (5) special rules for redistricting conducted under a federal court order; (6) Election Assistance Commission payments to states for carrying out redistricting; (7) civil enforcement to carry out this Act; and (8) the right of civil action for a person who is aggrieved by a violation of this Act.

Bill No.:	H.R. 672 [VIEW BILL TEXT]
Short Title:	Election Support Consolidation and Efficiency Act
Sponsors:	Representative Gregg Harper (R-MS) and 22 Cosponsors [VIEW ALL]
Date Introduced:	February 11, 2011 [VIEW STATUS]
Key Issues:	Election Assistance Commission
Description:	<p>This bill would amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to terminate the Election Assistance Commission (EAC), the EAC Standards Board, and the EAC Board of Advisors 61 days after enactment of this Act.</p> <p>This bill would require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to perform EAC functions with respect to certain existing contracts and agreements during the transition period for winding up EAC affairs.</p> <p>This bill would transfer specified election administration functions of the EAC to the Federal Election Commission (FEC).</p> <p>This bill would replace the Standards Board and the Board of Advisors with a Guidelines Review Board to review voluntary voting system guidelines proposed by the Technical Guidelines Development Committee.</p> <p>This bill would set forth special requirements relating to the transfer of certain EAC authorities to the FEC with respect to development of such guidelines. This bill would transfer to the FEC the EAC Office of Voting System Testing and Certification.</p> <p>This bill would direct the Comptroller General to: (1) study the procedures used to adopt and modify the voluntary voting system guidelines applicable to the administration of elections for federal office, and (2) develop recommendations on methods to improve such procedures.</p> <p>This bill would require the FEC to: (1) study the procedures for the testing, certification, decertification, and recertification of voting system hardware and</p>

software used in federal elections, and (2) develop a recommendation on the entity best suited to oversee and carry out such procedures.

This bill would require the recommendations in both studies to take into account the needs of persons affected by such guidelines, including state and local election officials, voters with disabilities, absent military and overseas voters, and the manufacturers of voting systems.

Bill No.:	H.R. 702 [VIEW BILL TEXT]
Short Title:	To amend the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act to require States to delay certifying the results of regularly scheduled general elections for Federal office in order to ensure the counting of any marked absentee ballots of absent overseas uniformed services voters that are collected by the Presidential designee under such Act for delivery to State election officials.
Sponsors:	Representative David P. Roe (R-TN) and 2 Cosponsors [VIEW ALL]
Date Introduced:	February 15, 2011 [VIEW STATUS]
Key Issues:	Military and Overseas Voting
Description:	<p>This bill would amend the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act prohibit a state from certifying the results of a regularly scheduled election for federal office until it has counted all valid ballots of absent service member voters collected by the presidential designee and delivered to the appropriate state election officials.</p> <p>This bill would also allow a state to certify such results on the later of ten days after such election or the date provided under state law.</p>

Bill No.:	H.R. 1404 [VIEW BILL TEXT]
Short Title:	Fair Elections Now Act
Sponsors:	Representative John B. Larson (D-CT) and 79 Cosponsors [VIEW ALL]
Date Introduced:	April 6, 2011 [VIEW STATUS]
Key Issues:	Campaign Finance Reform
Description:	<p>This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (FECA) with respect to: (1) candidate benefits of fair elections financing of House of Representatives election campaigns; (2) allocations to candidates from the Fair Elections Fund established by this Act; (3) 500% matching payments to candidates for certain small dollar contributions; (4) Fund allocation eligibility requirements; (5) certification of a federal election candidate as a participating candidate; (6)</p>

contribution, expenditure, and fundraising requirements; (7) a public debate requirement; (8) remission to the Fair Elections Fund of unspent funds after an election; (9) establishment of the Fair Elections Fund and of a Fair Elections Oversight Board; (10) civil penalties for violation of contribution and expenditure requirements; and (11) transfer of a portion of collected civil money penalties into the Fair Elections Fund.

This bill would prohibit: (1) use of contributions by a participating candidate for any purposes other than an election campaign, and (2) establishment of joint fundraising committees with any political committee other than a candidate's authorized committee. This bill would also prescribe a limitation on coordinated expenditures by political party committees with participating candidates.

This bill would amend FECA to empower the Federal Election Commission (FEC) to petition the U.S. Supreme Court for a writ of certiorari to appeal a civil action.

This bill would require all designations, statements, and reports required to be filed under FECA to be filed: (1) directly with the FEC, and (2) in electronic form accessible by computers. This bill would also reduce from 48 hours to 24 hours after their receipt the deadline for the FEC to make designations, statements, reports, or notifications available to the public in the FEC office and on the Internet.

Bill No.:	H.R. 1937 [VIEW BILL TEXT]
Short Title:	EAC Improvements Act of 2011
Sponsors:	Representative Charles A. Gonzalez (D-TX) and 3 Cosponsors [VIEW ALL]
Date Introduced:	May 23, 2011 [VIEW STATUS]
Key Issues:	Election Assistance Commission
Description:	<p>This bill would amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to: (1) reauthorize the Election Assistance Commission (EAC), and (2) require states to participate in post-general election surveys.</p> <p>This bill would require the EAC to: (1) conduct and publish a survey of each polling place used in an election to determine the percentage of them in compliance with standards under the Americans with Disabilities Act; (2) establish an escrow account for making payments to accredited laboratories for the costs of the testing carried out in connection with the certification, decertification, and recertification of voting system hardware and software; (3) establish a schedule of fees for such testing; and (4) maintain and publish an updated list of all accredited laboratories.</p> <p>This bill would direct the EAC to analyze various factors that affect the costs to state and local governments of administering elections for federal office.</p>

This bill would direct the Comptroller General to study the administrative operations of the EAC, including various methods for increasing their efficiency and cost-effectiveness.

Bill No.: H.R. 2038 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Restoring Confidence Through Smarter Campaigns Act

Sponsors: Representative Brian Higgins (D-NY)

Date Introduced: May 26, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Campaign Finance Reform

Description: This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to limit expenditures by candidates for the House of Representatives to \$500,000 during the election cycle (\$250,000 for a primary election and \$250,000 for a general election). This bill would set at \$250,000 the maximum amount of expenditures which may be made for a runoff election (\$125,000 for a primary runoff election and \$125,000 for a general runoff election). This bill would exclude from such limits expenditures for legal services. This bill would provide for indexing such amounts for inflation.

Bill No.: H.R. 2084 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Universal Right to Vote by Mail Act of 2011

Sponsors: Representative Susan A. Davis (D-CA) and 1 Cosponsor [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: June 2, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Vote by Mail

Description: This bill would amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to prohibit a state from imposing additional conditions or requirements on the eligibility of an individual to cast a vote in federal elections by mail, except to the extent that it imposes a deadline for requesting the ballot and returning it to the appropriate state or local election official.

Bill No.: H.R. 2212 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Democracy Restoration Act of 2011

Sponsors: Representative John Conyers Jr. (D-MI) and 1 Cosponsor [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: June 6, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Voting Rights Restoration

Description: This bill would declare that the right of a U.S. citizen to vote in any election for federal office shall not be denied or abridged because that individual has been convicted of a criminal offense unless, at the time of the election, such individual is serving a felony sentence in a correctional institution or facility. This bill would provide for enforcement and remedies for violations of this Act.

This bill specifies that: (1) nothing in this Act shall be construed to prohibit a state from enacting any state law that affords the right to vote in any election for federal office on terms less restrictive than those terms established by this Act; and (2) the rights and remedies established by this Act shall be in addition to all other rights and remedies provided by law, and shall not supersede, restrict, or limit the application of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 or the National Voter Registration Act of 1993.

This bill would prohibit any state, unit of local government, or other person from receiving or using any federal grant amounts to construct or improve a place of incarceration unless that person has a program to notify each U.S. citizen incarcerated in that person's jurisdiction, on release from such incarceration, of that individual's rights under this Act.

Bill No.: H.R. 2517 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Shareholder Protection Act of 2011

Sponsors: Representative Michael Capuano (D-MA) and 49 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: July 13, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Campaign Finance Reform

Description: This bill would amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require that any solicitation of a proxy, consent, or authorization with respect to any security of an issuer: (1) describe the specific nature (to the extent known) and total amount of expenditures proposed for political activities for the forthcoming fiscal year but not yet authorized by a vote of the issuer's shareholders, and (2) provide for a separate shareholder vote to authorize such proposed expenditures.

This bill would prohibit an issuer from making an expenditure for political activities in any fiscal year unless: (1) such expenditure is of the nature of those proposed by the issuer according to the requirements of this Act; and (2) authorization for such expenditure has been granted by votes representing a majority of outstanding shares.

This bill would deem a violation of this requirement to be a breach of the fiduciary duty of the officers and directors who authorized such expenditure. This bill would also subject officers and directors who authorize the expenditure without prior

shareholder authorization to joint and several liability to any shareholder or class of shareholders for the amount of such expenditure.

This bill would require certain institutional investment managers to disclose annually in mandatory reports how they voted (proxies) in certain shareholder votes.

This bill would prohibit any person from bringing any civil, criminal, or administrative action against an institutional investment manager, or any of its employees, officers, or directors, based solely upon the investment manager's decision to divest from, or not to invest in, securities of an issuer because of expenditures for political activities made by that issuer.

This bill would require the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) to direct the national securities exchanges and national securities associations to prohibit the listing of any equity security of an issuer whose corporate bylaws do not expressly provide for a vote of the issuer's directors on any individual expenditure for political activities in excess of \$50,000. This bill would also require an issuer to make public, within 48 hours, the individual votes of the directors regarding any such expenditure.

This bill would direct the SEC to: (1) require issuers to disclose expenditures for political activities made during the preceding quarter and the individual votes by board members authorizing such expenditures; and (2) make such reports publicly available through the SEC website.

This bill would require the SEC to make annual assessments of the compliance by public corporations and their management with the reporting and disclosure requirements of this Act, and the Comptroller General (GAO) to evaluate periodically the effectiveness of SEC oversight of these requirements.

Bill No.:	H.R. 2540 [VIEW BILL TEXT]
Short Title:	Voter Protection Hotline Act of 2011
Sponsors:	Representative Marcia L. Fudge (D-OH) and 16 Cosponsors [VIEW ALL]
Date Introduced:	July 14, 2011 [VIEW STATUS]
Key Issues:	Voter Registration
Description:	This bill would direct the Attorney General (AG) to establish and operate a toll-free telephone service, using a telephone number accessible throughout the United States using easily identifiable numerals, through which individuals may: (1) obtain information on voting in elections for federal office, including how to register to vote, the hours of operation of polling places, and how to obtain absentee ballots; and (2) report problems encountered in registering to vote or voting, including incidences of voter intimidation or suppression.

This bill would require the AG to: (1) appoint individuals to a Voter Hotline Task Force, giving special consideration to individuals representing civil rights organizations, for ongoing analysis and assessment of the telephone service's operation; and (2) submit a report to Congress each odd-numbered year concerning voter intimidation or suppression reports made to the hotline and assessing the availability of the service to all U.S. households with telephone service.

Bill No.: H.R. 2788 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Competitive Elections Act of 2011

Sponsors: Representative Rob Woodall (R-GA) and 1 Cosponsor [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: August 1, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Campaign Finance Reform

Description: This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit an authorized committee of a candidate for election to the U.S. Senate or the House of Representatives from making any expenditure of funds in support of the candidate's election campaign that were not deposited in the committee's account during the election cycle for the office involved.

This bill would make an exception to this prohibition for candidates facing certain opponents who make expenditures from personal funds exceeding specified dollar amounts.

Bill No.: H.R. 3163 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Easy Voting Act of 2011

Sponsors: Representative Corrine Brown (D-FL) and 21 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: October 12, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Early Voting, Voter ID, Election Day Registration

Description: This bill would amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to: (1) require a minimum early voting period of 14 days preceding a federal election for states offering early voting, (2) prohibit an election official from requiring an individual to provide a state-based identification as a condition of registering to vote or of receiving or casting a ballot in any federal election, and (3) require states to make same-day voter registration and change of address service available at the polling place on the date of election.

Bill No.: H.R. 3316 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]
Short Title: Voter Access Protection Act
Sponsors: Representative Keith Ellison (D-MN) and 1 Cosponsor [[VIEW ALL](#)]
Date Introduced: November 2, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]
Key Issues: Voter Registration, Voter ID
Description: This bill would prohibit election officials from requiring individuals to provide photo identification as a condition of obtaining or casting a ballot in an election for Federal office or registering to vote in elections for Federal office, and for other purposes.

Bill No.: H.R. 3317 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]
Short Title: Same Day Registration Act
Sponsors: Representative Keith Ellison (D-MN) and 1 Cosponsor [[VIEW ALL](#)]
Date Introduced: November 2, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]
Key Issues: Voter Registration
Description: This bill would amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require States to provide for same day registration.

Bill No.: H.R. 3463 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]
Short Title: To reduce Federal spending and the deficit by terminating taxpayer financing of presidential election campaigns and party conventions and by terminating the Election Assistance Commission
Sponsors: Representative Gregg Harper (R-MS) and 1 Cosponsor [[VIEW ALL](#)]
Date Introduced: November 17, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]
Key Issues: Election Assistance Commission, Campaign Finance Reform, Voting Systems
Description: This bill would amend the Internal Revenue Code to terminate as of December 31, 2010, taxpayer financing of presidential election campaigns. This bill would abolish the Presidential Election Campaign Fund and the Presidential Primary Matching Payment Account.

This bill would direct the Secretary of the Treasury to transfer all amounts remaining in the Fund after enactment of this Act to the general fund of the Treasury to reduce the deficit.

This bill would amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to terminate the Election Assistance Commission (EAC), the EAC Standards Board, and the EAC Board of Advisors 61 days after enactment of this Act. This bill would also require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to perform EAC functions with respect to certain existing contracts and agreements during the transition period for winding up EAC affairs.

This bill would transfer specified election administration functions of the EAC to the Federal Election Commission (FEC).

This bill would replace the Standards Board and the Board of Advisors with a Guidelines Review Board to review voluntary voting system guidelines proposed by the Technical Guidelines Development Committee.

This bill would set forth special requirements relating to the transfer of certain EAC authorities to the FEC with respect to development of such guidelines.

This bill would also transfer to the FEC the EAC Office of Voting System Testing and Certification.

This bill would direct the Comptroller General to: (1) study the procedures used to adopt and modify the voluntary voting system guidelines applicable to the administration of elections for federal office, and (2) develop recommendations on methods to improve such procedures.

This bill would require the FEC to: (1) study the procedures for the testing, certification, decertification, and recertification of voting system hardware and software used in federal elections; and (2) develop a recommendation on the entity best suited to oversee and carry out such procedures.

This bill would require the recommendations in both studies to take into account the needs of persons affected by such guidelines, including state and local election officials, voters with disabilities, absent military and overseas voters, and the manufacturers of voting systems.

Bill No.:	H.R. 3846 [VIEW BILL TEXT]
Short Title:	National Commission for Independent Redistricting Act of 2012
Sponsors:	Representative Earl Blumenauer (D-OR)
Date Introduced:	January 31, 2012 [VIEW STATUS]
Key Issues:	Redistricting
Description:	This bill would establish a National Commission for Independent Redistricting to prepare Congressional redistricting plans for all States and to require Congressional

redistricting in a State to be conducted in accordance with the Commission plan for the State.

Bill No.: H.R. 3858 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Stand By Every Ad Act of 2011

Sponsors: Representative David E. Price (D-NC) and 4 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: December 7, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Campaign Finance Reform

Description: This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to require the identification of funding and authorizing sources in communications expressly advocating the election or defeat of a clearly identified candidate (as under current law) or which consist of the functional equivalent of express advocacy.

This bill would prescribe special rules for express advocacy radio and television communications which are not authorized by a candidate, an authorized political committee of a candidate, or its agents. This bill would require individual disclosure statements about the head of the entity paying for the communication and about any other person that disbursed funds to the entity to finance the communication.

This bill would requires disclosure of such identifying information within audio and video communications made through the Internet or e-mail.

This bill would apply such disclosure requirements to prerecorded telephone calls.

Bill No.: H.R. 3902 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: District of Columbia Special Election Reform Act

Sponsors: Representative Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC)

Date Introduced: February 6, 2012 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: DC Voting Rights

Description: This bill would amend the District of Columbia Home Rule Act to require the Board of Elections and Ethics, in filling the following vacancies, to hold a special election in the District on the first Tuesday occurring between 70 and 174 days (currently, the first Tuesday occurring more than 114 days) after the vacancy occurs which the Board determines, based on a totality of the circumstances, taking into account, inter alia, cultural and religious holidays and the administrability of the election, will provide the greatest level of voter participation. This bill would eliminate the specific alternative of a special election on the same day as the next general election (without

eliminating the option of a special election on the same day as the next general election).

This bill would apply this revised special election requirement to: (1) the Office of the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, (2) a Council member elected from a ward or elected at large, (3) the Office of the Mayor of the District, and (4) the Office of the Attorney General of the District.

Bill No.:	H.R. 3978 [VIEW BILL TEXT]
Short Title:	Equal Access to Support Youth Voting Act or the “EASY Voting Act”
Sponsors:	Representative Emanuel Cleaver (D-MO)
Date Introduced:	February 8, 2012 [VIEW STATUS]
Key Issues:	Deceptive Practices, Voter ID
Description:	<p>This bill would amend the federal criminal code to prohibit the dissemination of false information with the intent of discouraging students who attend an institution of higher education (IHE) from voting or registering to vote in a federal election.</p> <p>This bill would amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require state and local election officials to accept a current and valid student photo identification issued by the IHE the student attends as a current and valid photo identification when such identification is required to obtain a ballot or vote in a federal election.</p>

Bill No.:	H.R. 4010 [VIEW BILL TEXT]
Short Title:	Democracy is Strengthened by Casting Light on Spending in Elections Act of 2012 or the “DISCLOSE Act of 2012”
Sponsors:	Representative Christopher Van Hollen (D-MD) and 160 Cosponsors [VIEW ALL]
Date Introduced:	February 9, 2012 [VIEW STATUS]
Key Issues:	Campaign Finance Reform
Description:	This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide for additional disclosure requirements for corporations, labor organizations, Super PACs and other entities, and for other purposes.

Bill No.:	H.R. 4126 [VIEW BILL TEXT]
Short Title:	Voter ID Accessibility Act of 2012

Sponsors: Representative Steve Cohen (D-TN) and 11 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]
Date Introduced: March 1, 2012 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]
Key Issues: Voter ID
Description: This bill would amend the Voter Registration Act of 1993 to require states that have in effect a photo identification requirement as a condition for voting in a federal election to provide individuals who do not have a government-issued photo identification with such an identification, without charge, upon request.

Bill No.: H.R. 4183 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]
Short Title: Weekend Voting Act
Sponsors: Representative Steve Israel (D-NY) and 3 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]
Date Introduced: March 8, 2012 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]
Key Issues: Weekend Election Days
Description: This bill would change the date for regularly scheduled Federal elections and establish polling place hours.

Bill No.: H.R. 5799 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]
Short Title: Voter Empowerment Act of 2012
Sponsors: Representative John Lewis (D-GA) and 130 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]
Date Introduced: May 17, 2012 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]
Key Issues: Voter Registration, Voting Rights Restoration, Voting Systems
Description: This bill would modernize voter registration, promote access to voting for individuals with disabilities, protect the ability of individuals to exercise the right to vote in elections for Federal office, and for other purposes.

Bill No.: H.R. 5814 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]
Short Title: Poll Tape Transparency Act of 2012
Sponsors: Representative Rush Holt (D-NJ)

Date Introduced: May 17, 2012 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Voting Systems

Description: This bill would amend the Help America Vote Act with respect to the requirements for each voting system used in a federal election.

This bill would require the appropriate election official, upon the closing of the polls at each polling place, and under the observation of the certified tabulation observers admitted to the polling place, to: (1) announce the vote orally; (2) post a copy of the poll tape reflecting the totals from each voting machine in the polling place upon which votes were cast; (3) prepare and post a statement of the total number of individuals who appeared at the polling place to cast ballots; and (4) display by noon the following day, at a prominent public location, a copy of each poll tape and statement.

This bill would require display of such information also on the official public websites of the applicable local election official and chief state election official.

This bill would specify similar treatment of ballots cast at early voting sites, absentee ballots, and the daily count of provisional ballots.

Bill No.: H.R. 5815 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Deceptive Practices and Voter Intimidation Prevention Act of 2012

Sponsors: Representative Rush Holt (D-NJ)]

Date Introduced: May 17, 2012 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Deceptive Practices

Description: This bill would amend the Revised Statutes and federal criminal law to prohibit any person, whether acting under color of law or otherwise, from knowingly deceiving any other person regarding: (1) the time, place, or manner of conducting any federal election; or (2) the qualifications for or restrictions on voter eligibility for any such election. This bill would create a private right of action for any person aggrieved by a violation of such prohibition.

This bill would prescribe a criminal penalty for such deceptive acts.

This bill would authorize any person to report to the Assistant Attorney General of the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice certain acts of deception involving federal elections.

This bill would require the Assistant Attorney General, within 48 hours after receiving such a report, to investigate it and, if an act of deception occurred, to: (1) undertake all effective measures necessary to provide correct information to voters

affected by the deception, and (2) refer the matter to the appropriate federal and state authorities for criminal prosecution.

This bill would direct the Attorney General to study the feasibility of providing such corrective information through public service announcements, the emergency alert system, or other forms of public broadcast.

**CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS
INTRODUCED IN THE SENATE**

Bill No.: S. J. Res. 29 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections.

Sponsors: Senator Tom Udall (D-NM) and 18 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: November 1, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Campaign Finance Reform

Description: This amendment would grant Congress and the states the power to regulate the raising and spending of money and in kind equivalents with respect to federal and state elections, respectively.

Bill No.: S. J. Res. 33 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to expressly exclude for-profit corporations from the rights given to natural persons by the Constitution of the United States, prohibit corporate spending in all elections, and affirm the authority of Congress and the States to regulate corporations and to regulate and set limits on all election contributions and expenditures.

Sponsors: Senator Bernard Sanders (I-VT) and 1 Cosponsor [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: December 8, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Campaign Finance Reform

Description: This amendment would declare that the rights protected by the Constitution are the rights of natural persons and do not extend to for-profit corporations, limited liability companies, or other private entities established for business purposes or to promote business interests under the laws of any state, the United States, or any foreign state.

This amendment would declare that such corporate and other private entities are subject to regulation by the people through the legislative process so long as such regulations are consistent with the powers of Congress and the states and do not limit the freedom of the press.

This amendment would prohibits such corporate and other private entities from making contributions or expenditures in any election of any candidate for public office or the vote upon any ballot measure submitted to the people.

This amendment would grant Congress and the states the power to regulate and set limits on all election contributions and expenditures, including a candidate's own spending, and to authorize the establishment of political committees to receive, spend, and publicly disclose the sources of those contributions and expenditures.

**CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS
INTRODUCED IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Bill No.: H. J. Res. 6 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States waiving the application of the first article of amendment to the political speech of corporations and other business organizations with respect to the disbursement of funds in connection with public elections and granting Congress and the States the power to establish limits on contributions and expenditures in elections for public office.

Sponsors: Representative Marcy Kaptur (D-OH)

Date Introduced: January 5, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Campaign Finance Reform

Description: This amendment would waive application of the First Amendment to the political speech of any corporation, partnership, business trust, association, or other business organization with respect to the making of contributions, expenditures, or other disbursements of funds in connection with public elections.

This amendment would also grant Congress the power to set limits on the amounts of contributions and expenditures with respect to candidates in a federal election.

This amendment would grant a state the power to set limits on the amounts of contributions and expenditures with respect to candidates in a state or local election.

Bill No.: H. J. Res. 7 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States waiving the application of the first article of amendment to the political speech of corporations and other business organizations with respect to the disbursement of funds in connection with public elections.

Sponsors: Representative Marcy Kaptur (D-OH)

Date Introduced: January 5, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Campaign Finance Reform

Description: This amendment would waive application of the First Amendment to the political speech of any corporation, partnership, business trust, association, or other business organization with respect to the making of contributions, expenditures, or other disbursements of funds in connection with public elections.

Bill No.: H. J. Res. 8 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to limitations on the amounts of contributions and expenditures that may be made in connection with campaigns for election to public office.

Sponsors: Representative Marcy Kaptur (D-OH) and 6 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: January 5, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Campaign Finance Reform

Description: This amendment would grant Congress the power to set limits on the amounts of contributions and expenditures with respect to candidates in a federal election.

This amendment would also grant a state the power to set limits on the amounts of contributions and expenditures with respect to candidates in a state or local election.

Bill No.: H. J. Res. 25 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States regarding presidential election voting rights for residents of all United States territories and commonwealths.

Sponsors: Representative Donna Christensen (D-VI) and 2 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: February 9, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Other

Description: This amendment would declare that the right of citizens of the United States to vote in the election for President and Vice President shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of residency in a U.S. territory or commonwealth.

Bill No.: H. J. Res. 36 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to abolish the Electoral College and provide for the direct election of the President and Vice President by the popular vote of all citizens of the United States regardless of place of residence.

Sponsors: Representative Jesse Jackson (D-IL) and 29 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: February 14, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]
Key Issues: Electoral College
Description: This amendment would provide for the direct popular election of the President and the Vice President.

Bill No.: H. J. Res. 65 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]
Short Title: Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to prohibit candidates for election to Congress from accepting contributions from individuals who do not reside in the State or Congressional district the candidate seeks to represent.
Sponsors: Representative Dan Boren (D-OK)
Date Introduced: May 24, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]
Key Issues: Campaign Finance Reform
Description: This amendment would Prohibits candidates for election to Congress from accepting contributions from individuals who do not reside in the state or congressional district the candidate seeks to represent.

Bill No.: H. J. Res. 72 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]
Short Title: Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States giving Congress power to regulate campaign contributions for Federal elections.
Sponsors: Representative Kurt Schrader (D-OR) and 4 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]
Date Introduced: July 13, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]
Key Issues: Campaign Finance Reform
Description: This amendment would gives Congress the power to prohibit, limit, and otherwise regulate the contribution of funds or donation of in-kind equivalents: (1) to candidates standing for election to a federal office in the United States, and (2) used to support or purchase media advertisements intended to influence the outcome of any such election.

This amendment would give each of the several states the power to prohibit, limit, and otherwise regulate the contribution of funds or donation of in-kind equivalents: (1) to candidates standing for election to public office in the state, and (2) used to support or purchase media advertisements intended to influence the outcome of any such election or plebiscite in the state.

This amendment would prohibit any person who is not a U.S. citizen or is a foreign government, or acts as an agent of one, from: (1) contributing funds or donating in-kind equivalents to candidates standing for election to public office in the United States, or (2) otherwise expending funds or donating in-kind equivalents in a manner intended to influence the outcome of an election for public office or plebiscite in the United States.

Bill No.: H. J. Res. 78 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to clarify the authority of Congress and the States to regulate the expenditure of funds for political activity by corporations.

Sponsors: Representative Donna F. Edwards (D-MD) and 24 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: September 12, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Campaign Finance Reform

Description: This amendment would declare that nothing in the U.S. Constitution shall prohibit Congress and the states from imposing content-neutral regulations and restrictions on the expenditure of funds for political activity by any corporation, limited liability company, or other corporate entity, including but not limited to contributions in support of, or in opposition to, a candidate for public office.

Bill No.: H. J. Res. 82 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States authorizing regulation of any expenditure in connection with an election.

Sponsors: Representative Theodore E. Deutch (D-FL)

Date Introduced: October 24, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Campaign Finance Reform

Description: This amendment would grant Congress the power to regulate any expenditure by a corporation in connection with an election for federal office.

This amendment would grant each of the several states the power to regulate any expenditure by a corporation in connection with an election for state or local public office or a plebiscite in the state.

This amendment would provide that nothing contained in this Amendment shall be construed to abridge the freedom of the press.

Bill No.: H. J. Res. 86 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures with respect to elections.

Sponsors: Representative Betty Sutton (D-OH) and 14 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: November 14, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Campaign Finance Reform

Description: This amendment would grant Congress and the states the power to regulate the raising and spending of money and in kind equivalents with respect to federal and state elections, respectively.

Bill No.: H. J. Res. 90 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to expressly exclude for-profit corporations from the rights given to natural persons by the Constitution of the United States, prohibit corporate spending in all elections, and affirm the authority of Congress and the States to regulate corporations and to regulate and set limits on all election contributions and expenditures.

Sponsors: Representative Theodore E. Deutch (D-FL) and 45 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: November 18, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Limiting Corporate Personhood

Description: This amendment would declare that the rights protected by the Constitution are the rights of natural persons and do not extend to for-profit corporations, limited liability companies, or other private entities established for business purposes or to promote business interests under the laws of any state, the United States, or any foreign state.

This amendment would declare that such corporate and other private entities are subject to regulation by the people through the legislative process so long as such regulations are consistent with the powers of Congress and the states and do not limit the freedom of the press.

This amendment would prohibit such corporate and other private entities from making contributions or expenditures in any election of any candidate for public office or the vote upon any ballot measure submitted to the people.

This amendment would grants Congress and the states the power to regulate and set limits on all election contributions and expenditures, including a candidate's own spending, and to authorize the establishment of political committees to receive, spend, and publicly disclose the sources of those contributions and expenditures.

Bill No.: H. J. Res. 97 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures with respect to Federal elections.

Sponsors: Representative John A. Yarmuth (D-KY) and 3 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: December 20, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Campaign Finance Reform

Description: This amendment would deny as protected speech any financial expenditures, or in kind equivalents, with respect to a candidate for federal office, without regard to whether or not a communication expressly advocates the election or defeat of a specified candidate in the election.

This amendment would give Congress the power to enact a mandatory public financing system to provide funds to qualified candidates in federal elections, which shall be the sole source of funds raised or spent with respect to federal elections.

This amendment would require Congress to set forth a legal public holiday for the purpose of voting in regularly scheduled general elections for federal office.

Bill No.: H. J. Res. 100 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States regarding the use of public funds to pay for campaigns for election to Federal office.

Sponsors: Representative Dennis J. Kucinich (D-OH)

Date Introduced: January 18, 2012 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Campaign Finance Reform

Description: This amendment would declare that all campaigns for President and Members of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate shall be financed entirely with public funds. This amendment would prohibit contributions to any candidate for federal office from any other source, including the candidate.

This amendment would prohibit any expenditures in support of any candidate for federal office, or in opposition to any such candidate, from any other source, including the candidate