

HR 796

Drain the Swamp Act of 2017

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Government Operations and Politics

Introduced: Feb 1, 2017

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice. (Mar 2, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/796>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. DeSantis, Ron [R-FL-6]

Party: Republican • **State:** FL • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Rokita, Todd [R-IN-4]	R · IN		Jun 7, 2017
Rep. Gianforte, Greg [R-MT-At Large]	R · MT		Jun 21, 2017

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Committee on House Administration	House	Referred To	Feb 1, 2017
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 2, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Drain the Swamp Act of 2017

This bill increases the ban on certain former executive branch officials, Members of Congress, and legislative staff within five years of termination of employment to knowingly make, with the intent to influence, any communication or appearance before an officer or employee of the executive branch, a Member of Congress or their staff, or any other legislative office on behalf of any other person (except the United States). The bill establishes penalties for such violations. The bill eliminates a similar two-year ban on certain senior executive branch officials.

The bill creates a lifetime ban on certain senior personnel of the executive branch (including independent agencies) from representing, aiding, or advising foreign entities.

The bill broadens the definition of lobbying activities in the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 to also include consulting and advising. The bill amends the definition of lobbyist in the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 to include individuals who spend at least 10% of their time engaged in lobbying services to one client in a 3-month period.

The scope of prohibitions on foreign nationals is expanded to include soliciting a contribution or donation in connection with a federal, state, or local election; to a political party; or for an electioneering communication.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 2, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice.
- **Feb 1, 2017:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 1, 2017:** Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.