

104TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 3772

To establish certain disclosure requirements relating to franked mail sent  
by Members of the House of Representatives.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 10, 1996

Mr. CASTLE (for himself, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. BLUTE, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. GOSS, Ms. GREENE of Utah, Mr. JACOBS, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. McHALE, Mr. PARKER, Mr. POSHARD, and Mr. SHAYS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Oversight

---

## A BILL

To establish certain disclosure requirements relating to  
franked mail sent by Members of the House of Rep-  
resentatives.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS.**

4 (a) RELATING TO EACH MAILING.—Any franked  
5 mail sent by a Member of the House of Representatives  
6 shall bear on its face, or on the envelope or outside cover  
7 or wrapper in which the mail matter is sent, the following  
8 notice: **“THIS MAILING WAS PREPARED, PUBLISHED,**  
9 **AND MAILED AT TAXPAYER EXPENSE.”**, or a notice to

1 the same effect in words which may be prescribed under  
2 subsection (c).

3 (b) RELATING TO THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.—

4 There shall be published in the Congressional Record, on  
5 an annual basis, a summary tabulation setting forth, for  
6 the office of each Member of the House of Representa-  
7 tives, the total number of pieces of franked mail mailed  
8 during the year involved and the total cost of those  
9 mailings.

10 (c) REGULATIONS.—The House Commission on Con-  
11 gressional Mailing Standards shall prescribe such rules  
12 and regulations and shall take such other action as the  
13 Commission considers necessary and proper for Members  
14 to conform to the provisions of this subsection and appli-  
15 cable rules and regulations.

16 (d) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

17 (1) the term “Member of the House of Rep-  
18 resentatives” means a Representative in, or a Dele-  
19 gate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress;  
20 and

21 (2) the term “franked mail” has the meaning  
22 given such term by section 3201(4) of title 39, Unit-  
23 ed States Code.

1           (e) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—This section shall apply with  
2 respect to sessions of Congress beginning after the date  
3 of the enactment of this Act.

○