

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3848

To provide for a reporting requirement regarding communications between the Department of Justice and the White House relating to civil and criminal investigations, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 16, 2007

Mr. COHEN (for himself, Mr. CONYERS, and Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To provide for a reporting requirement regarding communications between the Department of Justice and the White House relating to civil and criminal investigations, and for other purposes.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Security from Political  
5       Interference in Justice Act of 2007”.

6       **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7       In this Act—

8               (1) the term “covered communication”—

1 (A) means any communication relating to  
2 an ongoing investigation conducted by the De-  
3 partment of Justice in any civil or criminal  
4 matter (regardless of whether a civil action or  
5 criminal indictment or information has been  
6 filed); and

7 (B) does not include any communication  
8 relating to policy, appointments, legislation,  
9 rulemaking, budgets, public relations, pro-  
10 grammatic matters, intergovernmental rela-  
11 tions, administrative or personnel matters, ap-  
12 pellate litigation, or requests for legal advice;

13 (2) the term “covered Department of Justice  
14 officer” means—

15 (A) the Attorney General;

16 (B) the Deputy Attorney General; and

17 (C) the Associate Attorney General; and

18 (3) the term “covered White House officer”

19 means—

20 (A) the President;

21 (B) the Vice President;

22 (C) the Counsel to the President; and

23 (D) the Counselor to the President.

1 **SEC. 3. REPORTS TO CONGRESS.**

2 (a) DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE REPORT.—Not later  
3 than 30 days after each January 1 and July 1 of each  
4 calendar year, the Attorney General shall submit to the  
5 Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Com-  
6 mittee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives  
7 a report with the name and title of each officer or em-  
8 ployee of the Department of Justice who made a covered  
9 communication during the 6-month period preceding that  
10 January 1 or July 1 with any officer or employee of the  
11 Executive Office of the President. The report need not in-  
12 clude any covered Department of Justice officer.

13 (b) WHITE HOUSE REPORT.—Not later than 30 days  
14 after each January 1 and July 1 of each calendar year,  
15 the Counsel to the President shall submit to the Com-  
16 mittee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee  
17 on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives a report  
18 with the name and title of each officer or employee of the  
19 Executive Office of the President who made a covered  
20 communication during the 6-month period preceding that  
21 January 1 or July 1 with any officer or employee of the  
22 Department of Justice. The report need not include any  
23 covered White House officer.

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