

Amendment offered by Mr. Doggett, Mr. Pascrell, and Mr. Crowley

The amendment would require the Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee to request the President's tax returns and those of his businesses.

AMENDMENT

OFFERED BY MR. DOGGETT OF TEXAS

At the end, add the following:

1 **TITLE III—EFFECTIVE DATE**

2 **SEC. 301. FINDINGS.**

3 Congress finds as follows:

4 (1) Section 6103(f)(1) of the Internal Revenue
5 Code of 1986 provides that, upon written request
6 from the chairman of the Committee on Ways and
7 Means, the Joint Committee on Taxation, or the
8 Committee on Finance, the Secretary of the Treas-
9 ury shall furnish the committee with any return or
10 return information specified in such request.

11 (2) Congress authorized committee access to
12 tax return information in part to address separation-
13 of-powers concerns related to a number of Harding
14 Administration scandals, including the alleged brib-
15 ery of Executive Branch officials in exchange for the
16 leasing of public oil fields to private companies, and
17 questions surrounding possible conflicts of interest
18 involving former Treasury Secretary Andrew Mellon,
19 who continued to own many businesses interests
20 while serving in government and may have been af-

1 (7) Media reports indicate that in response to
2 the assertion that the only tax returns of Mr. Trump
3 that anyone has seen indicate that Mr. Trump paid
4 no federal tax, Mr. Trump responded, “that makes
5 me smart”.

6 (8) According to his attorneys, Mr. Trump
7 holds “interests as the sole or principal owner in ap-
8 proximately 500 separate entities,” which he dis-
9 closed on form 278e filed with the Office of Govern-
10 ment Ethics.

11 (9) Against the advice of ethics attorneys and
12 the nonpartisan Office of Government Ethics, the
13 President has refused to divest his ownership stake
14 in his businesses.

15 (10) The Director of the nonpartisan Office of
16 Government Ethics said that the President’s plan to
17 transfer his business holdings to a trust managed by
18 family members is “meaningless” and “does not
19 meet the standards that . . . every President in the
20 past four decades has met”.

21 (11) The Emoluments Clause was included in
22 the Constitution for the express purpose of pre-
23 venting Federal officials from accepting any
24 “present, Emolument, Office, or Title. . . from any
25 King, Prince, or foreign state”.

1 Foundation's name and funds it raised from the
2 public to promote his campaign for presidency, in-
3 cluding in the days before the Iowa nominating cau-
4 cuses.

5 (15) The New York Attorney General's inves-
6 tigation found that the Trump Foundation raised in
7 excess of \$2.8 million in a manner designed to influ-
8 ence the 2016 presidential election at the direction
9 and under the control of senior leadership of the
10 Trump presidential campaign. The Trump Founda-
11 tion raised the funds from the public at the nation-
12 ally televised fundraiser Mr. Trump held in lieu of
13 participating in the Presidential primary debate in
14 Des Moines, Iowa, on January 28, 2016. The inves-
15 tigation found that, in violation of state and federal
16 law, senior Trump campaign staff, including Cam-
17 paign Manager Corey Lewandowski, dictated the
18 timing, amounts, and recipients of grants by the
19 Trump Foundation to non-profits. At least five
20 \$100,000 grants were made to groups in Iowa in the
21 days immediately before the February 1, 2016 Iowa
22 caucuses.

23 (16) The New York Attorney General's inves-
24 tigation found that the Trump Foundation also en-
25 tered into at least five self-dealing transactions that

1 the Trump presidential campaign, and Richard
2 Gates, an associate of Mr. Manafort, were indicted
3 by a grand jury in the United States District Court
4 for the Eastern District of Virginia on a combined
5 32 counts related to tax fraud, bank fraud, and fail-
6 ure to report foreign bank accounts.

7 (19) The indictment alleges that Mr. Manafort
8 and Mr. Gates generated tens of millions of dollars
9 in income as a result of their lobbying work, and
10 that from approximately 2006 through the present,
11 Mr. Manafort and Mr. Gates engaged in a scheme
12 to hide income from United States authorities.

13 (20) The indictment alleges that, between 2006
14 and 2015, Mr. Manafort, with Mr. Gates' assistance,
15 failed to pay taxes on this income by disguising it
16 as alleged "loans" from nominee offshore corporate
17 entities and by making millions of dollars in unre-
18 ported payments from foreign accounts to bank ac-
19 counts they controlled and U.S. vendors. Nominee
20 services are frequently used to protect the identity
21 and anonymity of the offshore entity's true owner.

22 (21) The indictment alleges that Mr. Manafort
23 and Mr. Gates funneled millions of dollars of pay-
24 ments into numerous foreign nominee companies
25 and bank accounts, opened in various foreign coun-

1 concealed from the United States Department of the
2 Treasury, the Department of Justice, and others.

3 (24) On August 21, 2018, a federal jury in the
4 United States District Court for the Eastern Dis-
5 trict of Virginia found Mr. Manafort guilty on eight
6 counts related to tax evasion, bank fraud, and fail-
7 ure to report a foreign bank account.

8 (25) In response to Mr. Manafort's conviction,
9 Mr. Trump stated that he felt very badly for Mr.
10 Manafort and described Mr. Manafort as a brave
11 man, deserving of respect. Mr. Trump questioned
12 the Justice Department for pursuing a 12-year-old
13 tax case.

14 (26) Also on August 21, 2018, Michael Cohen,
15 Mr. Trump's long-time personal attorney, pleaded
16 guilty in the United States District Court for the
17 Southern District of New York to five counts of tax
18 evasion; one count of making false statements to a
19 financial institution; one count of willfully causing
20 an unlawful corporation contribution; and one count
21 of making an excessive campaign contribution at the
22 request of a candidate.

23 (27) As part of the plea agreement, Mr. Cohen
24 admitted that he engaged in a scheme to evade in-
25 come taxes by failing to report more than \$4 million

1 Cohen admitted that he made the aforementioned
2 payment in order to influence the 2016 presidential
3 election. In so doing, he coordinated with one or
4 more members of the Trump presidential campaign,
5 including an individual believed to be Mr. Trump.

6 (31) Mr. Cohen identified Mr. Trump, under
7 oath, as a co-conspirator who directed him to make
8 the payments at issue.

9 (32) Mr. Cohen admitted that, in seeking reim-
10 bursement for the payment made to an individual
11 believed to be Ms. Daniels, he submitted a copy of
12 the bank statement from the Essential Consultants,
13 LLC, account, which reflected the \$130,000 pay-
14 ment. After reviewing the bank statement, the plea
15 agreement alleges that Trump Organization execu-
16 tives “grossed up” for tax purposes the requested re-
17 imbursement, included a bonus, and determined that
18 Mr. Cohen would be paid in monthly amounts of
19 \$35,000. On or about February 14, 2017, according
20 to the plea agreement, Mr. Cohen submitted the first
21 of his monthly invoices to a Trump Organization ex-
22 ecutive believed to be Trump Organization Chief Fi-
23 nancial Officer Allen Weisselberg, which requested,
24 pursuant to a retainer agreement, payment for legal
25 services rendered during the months of January and

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1 (A) the President's Federal tax returns
2 (and return information with respect to the
3 President) for the last 10 years, and

4 (B) the Federal tax returns (and return in-
5 formation with respect to the President's busi-
6 nesses) for the last 10 years of each business
7 entity disclosed by Donald J. Trump on his Of-
8 fice of Government Ethics Form 278e, specifi-
9 cally each corporation where he is listed as an
10 officer, director, or equivalent, or exercises
11 working control, and each partnership (within
12 the meaning of subchapter K of chapter 1 of
13 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) where he
14 is listed as an officer, director, or equivalent, or
15 exereises working control, and

16 (2) such returns and all accompanying return
17 information is made available for examination by bi-
18 partisan Committee staff, and additionally, in execu-
19 tive session, by all Committee Members.

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