

Anti-Corruption Bureau Creation Act —Summary

Background: “Drain the swamp” was the defining pledge of Donald Trump’s first campaign: he vowed to rip out Washington’s corruption roots and stem and build a government that worked for everyday Americans instead of powerful special interests. That promise rings hollow. With no restraints in his second term, self-dealing and corruption are the coin of the realm. The collateral damage: an American public squeezed by higher and higher costs while Trump’s government serves the interests of Trump, his family, and special interests.

Trump’s Presidential Profits: Since 2025, Trump has turned the presidency into a profit machine, taking in at least \$2 billion personally as his family cleared over \$4 billion—wealth tied directly to his time in office. Meanwhile, public funds flow to wealthy allies. Americans are left footing the bill: over \$3,100 more per family, plus taxpayer money for a MAGA slush fund, a “golden ballroom,” and a billion-dollar luxury jet upgrade.

Gutting America’s Anti-Corruption Infrastructure: America’s post-Watergate watchdogs are broken—and Trump has exploited the gaps. The FEC is paralyzed, the Office of Government Ethics sidelined after leadership purges, and the Office of Special Counsel is destabilized. The result is a system that no longer checks abuse—effectively giving a green light to pay-to-play politics. The cost lands on American families, as public power is steered toward private gain with little accountability.

Get the Money Back — And Put a Real Cop on the Beat: Americans are paying the price for corruption on a massive scale. The current anti-corruption framework has failed to stop presidential self-dealing and pay-to-play politics. It’s time for big solutions: recover the losses, close the loopholes, and build a system that prevents this from happening again.

Here’s how to do it:

Part 1: Get the money back:

- Congress needs to quickly ensure the money stolen by Trump, his family, and his special interest cronies is returned to the American people. All the money pilfered belongs to us. It’s time to get it back. There are proven ways to crack down on large-scale theft from the public. Congress should let the American people do it. Creating a private right of action, similar to the False Claims Act, is a simple tool that would enlist the public to sue to recover civil penalties and forfeitures from those who have misused their official positions for personal gain.

Part 2: Make sure this never happens again:

- Public office is a public trust, not a chance to cash in. To truly stop corruption, it’s not enough to claw back stolen money after the fact—there must be a tough, independent watchdog on duty to make sure no administration can turn public power into private profit again. That means creating a new agency with real

investigative teeth and enforcement powers to ensure accountability is a reality, not a slogan. We need an ***Anti-Corruption Bureau***.

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Anti-Corruption Bureau Creation Act —Section-by-Section

Secs. 1–4: Short title, findings, definitions

Names the bill the “Anti-Corruption Bureau Creation Act of 2026” and sets out findings on the Constitution’s anti-corruption tradition, Trump-era abuses, the collapse of post-Watergate watchdogs, and the need for a new independent watchdog and the ability to claw back pilfered public money.

Title I – Private Right of Action to Unwind Corruption

Creates a new civil cause of action allowing private plaintiffs, including state attorneys general, to sue in the name of the United States, to recover money obtained through corruption by presidents, senior officials, key campaign figures, and major contractors; defines covered persons and violations, imposes stiff penalties (including disgorgement and treble damages), authorizes broad equitable remedies, provides incentive awards and fee recovery for successful cases, and fee shifting for frivolous suits.

Title II – Establishment of Anti-Corruption Bureau

Creates an independent Anti-Corruption Bureau, led by a seven-member, Senate-confirmed board with strict independence and partisan-balance requirements, fixed terms, a Chair and Vice Chair, and an expert Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel to assist in the nomination process, all designed to insulate core anti-corruption enforcement from presidential and partisan interference.

Title III – Powers, Duties, and Consolidation

Empowers the Bureau with robust investigative, subpoena, oversight, and reporting powers and consolidates the existing Federal Election Commission, Office of Government Ethics, and Office of Special Counsel into the Bureau, preserving their authorities while modernizing the agency to create a stronger watchdog infrastructure.

Title IV – Appointment of Temporary Members

Establishes a special three-judge division of the D.C. Circuit to appoint temporary members to the Bureau when vacancies, obstruction, or crises threaten its operation, ensuring continuity and independence even if a president or Senate attempts to disable the agency.

Title V – General Matters

Creates the *Freedom From Influence Fund* as a dedicated, self-financing revenue source for the Bureau—funded by assessments and fines—while updating statutory references, directing the Bureau to issue regulations, and making technical, conforming amendments.