

Transparency of Candidate Support Act of 2027

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE. This Act may be cited as the “Transparency of Candidate Support Act of 2027.”

SECTION 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE. (a) Findings.— Political parties that accept federal grants from the Presidential Election Campaign Fund use public tax dollars. Taxpayers therefore have a direct interest in seeing the verified level of support for candidates within those parties before nominations are finalized. (b) Purpose.— The purposes of this Act are— (1) To ensure that any party accepting federal funds provides a verified, transparent, and shiftable support-tracking mechanism on its own national website for public viewing. (2) To reduce public reliance on unreliable third-party polling sources that utilize random or non-targeted samples. (3) To reduce the spread of political misinformation by providing a definitive, party-hosted information port conducting a targeted poll of motivated, registered voters.

SECTION 3. PARTY-HOSTED TRANSPARENCY REQUIREMENT. (a) Self-Hosted Portal.— As a condition of receiving federal funds, a political party shall establish and maintain a “Candidate Support Portal” (referred to in this Act as the Portal). (b) Placement.— The Portal shall be hosted directly on the party’s primary, publicly accessible national website and shall be accessible from the home page or displayed as the home page itself. (c) No Federal Facilitation.— The federal government is strictly prohibited from building, maintaining, or hosting the Portal. All technical infrastructure, security, and data storage shall be the sole responsibility of the political party. (d) No Government Access.— The federal government shall have no backend access to the Portal or its data. Government access shall be limited to viewing the publicly available counts displayed on the party’s website, identical to the access granted to the general public.

SECTION 4. PORTAL STANDARDS AND VOTER VERIFICATION. (a) Verified Participation.— The party shall verify participants using lawfully available state voter registration data. Except as provided in subsection (c), only registered voters affiliated with the party may participate in the poll. (b) Registration Assistance.— If a participant cannot be verified due to the status of state or party records, the Portal shall provide a clear link directing the individual to the party’s registration or affiliation process applicable in that state. (c) Open Primaries.— In states that conduct open primary elections under state law, the party may permit participation by any registered voter in that state, consistent with applicable state rules. (d) Mandatory Candidate Listing (Presidential Discovery Pool).— The Portal shall automatically list the following individuals as prospective candidates for the presidential nomination: (1) Incumbent Leadership.— The current President and Vice President, if affiliated with the party. (2) Current Federal Officeholders.— All current United States Senators and United States Representatives affiliated with the party. (3) Registered Presidential Candidates.— Any individual who has officially filed a Statement of Candidacy (FEC Form 2) for the Office of President and has met the federal threshold for candidate status with that party. (e) External Exposure and Financing.— Each individual listed in the Presidential Discovery Pool may include a direct hyperlink to an official campaign or officeholder website. Such links are intended to provide voters and taxpayers with direct access to candidate information and additional avenues for campaign exposure and financing. (f) Shiftable Support.— Participants shall be permitted to change their support at any time. During any transfer of support, the Portal shall display the following warning: “You are currently supporting [Name X]. Do you wish to transfer your support to [Name Y]?”

SECTION 5. TIMING AND POLL CLOSURES. (a) Operational Start.— The Portal shall go live on the first business day of the presidential election year. (b) Rolling Deadlines.— An individual voter’s support shall be locked five (5) days before the primary or caucus in the voter’s state of registration. (c) Transparency of Closure and Eligibility.— The Portal shall include a dedicated section titled “Closed State Polling,” which shall list— (1) Each state that has passed its primary date or the applicable five-day deadline; and (2) A clear countdown indicating the days remaining for eligibility in each state where polling remains open.

SECTION 6. DATA PRIVACY AND PENALTIES. (a) Qualitative Data.— Parties may require participants to answer up to three questions regarding why their support changed and the issues relevant to that change. Such qualitative data is the private property of the party and shall not be made public or shared with the government, except pursuant to a lawful investigation conducted in accordance with applicable legal standards and court authorization. The data shall remain closed to the public unless and until a final judicial determination requires disclosure as a matter of public trust. (b) Leak Penalties.— Any individual who unlawfully discloses non-public qualitative data obtained through the Portal, whether during an investigation or otherwise, shall be subject to financial penalties equivalent to those authorized under 18 U.S.C. § 3571, including fines of up to \$2,000 for minor violations and up to \$250,000 for violations of greater severity, as determined by the court. No term of imprisonment shall be imposed under this subsection. (c) Party Release.— Because Portal data is the property of the political party, a party may voluntarily release such data or information derived from it without incurring any penalty under this Act. This provision applies to all party officials granted access to such information. (d) Public Quantifiable Data.— The total number of verified supporters for each candidate and the percentage of overall support held by each candidate shall be displayed on the Portal and shall be accessible to the general public.

SECTION 7. PRESERVATION OF PARTY RIGHTS. (a) Informational Port.— The Portal shall function as a discovery tool for parties to evaluate candidate viability relative to other parties. (b) Non-Binding.— Results generated by the Portal are not primary votes and do not mandate which candidate a party must nominate. Each party retains its private right to select its nominee through its internal convention processes.