

Four Freedoms Democratic Club

Resolution to Increase the Accountability of Government Officials, Especially the President

Whereas this country has seen traditions, precedents, and norms trampled at an unprecedented rate since the election of Donald Trump, and

Whereas a number of these norms should be enshrined in laws to prevent future corruption and the creation of the unitary president,

The Four Freedoms Democratic Club HEREBY RESOLVES:

- The United States should enact a law that is substantially in the form of the proposed Trust, Responsibility and Unselfishness in My President Act of 2020 (the “TRUMP Act”) attached to this resolution as Exhibit A; and
- Our elected representatives should take all steps necessary and appropriate to introduce and pass the TRUMP Act.

EXHIBIT A

An Act

To prohibit United States Officials from behaving in a manner unbecoming their position.

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 “Trust, Responsibility and Unselfishness in My President Act of 2020”

- (a) For the purpose of this section –
- (1) PRESIDENT – the term “President” means the currently serving President of the United States of America as defined in Article 2 of the United States Constitution
 - (2) VICE PRESIDENT – the term “Vice president” means the currently serving Vice President of the United States of America as defined in Article 2 of the United States Constitution
 - (3) MEMBER OF CONGRESS – the term “Member of Congress” means a person currently serving as a Representative or Senator as defined in Article 1 of the United States Constitution
 - (4) OFFICER OF THE UNITED STATES – the term “Officer of the United States” means
 - a. Except for military other than those of the rank of general
 - b. Appointed
 - (5) ADVISOR TO THE PRESIDENT – the term “Advisor to the President” means
 - (6) SENIOR ADVISOR TO THE PRESIDENT– the term “Senior Advisor to the President” means
 - (7) COUNSELOR TO THE PRESIDENT– the term “” means
 - (8) WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY– the term “” means
 - (9) WHITE HOUSE SENIOR STAFF– the term “” means
 - (10) RELATIVES – the term “relatives” means a person’s parents, children, grandchildren, grandparents, siblings, aunts, uncles, cousins, parents in-law, children in-law, grandchildren in-law, grandparents in-law, siblings in-law, aunts in-law, uncles in-law, or cousins in-law, stepparents, stepchildren, stepgrandchildren, stepgrandparents, stepsiblings, stepaunts, stepuncles, stepcousins, or half siblings.
 - (11) MEMBER OF CONGRESS.—The term “Member of Congress” means a member of the Senate or House of Representatives, a Delegate to the House of Representatives, and the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico.
 - (12) EMPLOYEE OF CONGRESS.—The term “employee of Congress” means:

- (A) any individual (other than a Member of Congress), whose compensation is disbursed by the Secretary of the Senate or the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives; and
 - (B) any other officer or employee of the legislative branch (as defined in section 109(11) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App. 109(11))).
- (13) EXECUTIVE BRANCH EMPLOYEE.—The term “executive branch employee” —
- (A) has the meaning given the term “employee” under section 2105 of title 5, United States Code; and
 - (B) includes—
 - (i) the President;
 - (ii) the Vice President; and
 - (iii) an employee of the United States Postal Service or the Postal Regulatory Commission.
- (14) JUDICIAL OFFICER.—The term “judicial officer” has the meaning given that term under section 109(10) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (U.S.C. App. 109(10)).
- (15) JUDICIAL EMPLOYEE.—The term “judicial employee” has the meaning given that term in section 109(8) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App. 109(8)).
- (16) SUPERVISING ETHICS OFFICE.—The term “supervising ethics office” has the meaning given that term in section 109(18) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App. 109(18)).
- (17) PUBLIC OFFICIAL - the term “public official” means Member of Congress, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner, either before or after such official has qualified, or an officer or employee or person acting for or on behalf of the United States, or any department, agency or branch of Government thereof, including the District of Columbia, in any official function, under or by authority of any such department, agency, or branch of Government, or a juror;
- (18) OFFICIAL MEANS – the term “official means” means any public statement made by any person holding an office of the United States which can be either elected or appointed while the person is either
- (A) Acting in their official capacity
 - (B) Utilizing telecommunications or other communications means owned by or officially adopted by the United States including but not limited to social media accounts, office phones, office computers, and public addresses made on government property.
 - (C) While campaigning for themselves or another individual including statements approved by the candidate
- (b) No Officer of the United States shall possess any non-personal property worth more than \$10,000 that is not placed into a qualified blind trust as defined by the Ethics in Government Act. All business assets will be sold upon assuming office.
- (c) A public official including the President may not appoint, employ, promote, advance, or advocate for appointment, employment, promotion, or advancement, in or to a civilian

position any individual who is a relative of the public official. An individual may not be appointed, employed, promoted, or advanced in or to a civilian position in an agency if such appointment, employment, promotion, or advancement has been advocated by a public official, serving in or exercising jurisdiction or control over the agency, who is a relative of the individual. This may only be excepted with the consent of the majority and minority leaders of each of the United States House of Representatives and Senate.

- i. This section shall not be construed to prohibit the appointment of an individual who is a preference eligible in any case in which the passing over of that individual on a certificate of eligibles furnished under [section 3317\(a\) of this title](#) will result in the selection for appointment of an individual who is not a preference eligible.
 - ii. Title 3 U.S.C. § 105(a) no longer exempts positions in the White House Office from the provisions in this section.
- (d) Each Officer of the United States shall keep and not destroy logs of all phone calls, emails, and meetings, and visitors
- (e) Each Officer of the United States shall only utilize official phones and email, running all recommended security settings and software recommended by the United States Government Configuration Baseline and utilizing only official United States government servers.
- (f) No Officer of the United States shall profit from their actions as an Officer of the United States including travel.
- (g) No Officer of the United States shall request loyalty to themselves by any other employee of the United States
- (h) No Officer of the United States shall accuse a person of a crime without evidence including treason
- (i) No employee of the United States shall be permitted to sign a non-disclosure agreement which temporally extends beyond the end of their service to the United States. This does not create an exception to Disclosure of Classified Information as codified at 18 U.S. Code § 798.
- (j) The President shall not skip daily intelligence briefings without making a public statement explaining why the daily briefing was skipped.
- (k) The President or their Press Secretary will hold regular press conferences at least once every 72 hours.
- (l) The President shall not revoke security clearance without documenting non-political good cause given to each of the majority and minority leaders of the United States House of Representatives and Senate.
- (m) The President shall not revoke or deny press credentials, or otherwise act in retribution to journalists or journalistic organizations in response to unfavorable journalism.
 - i. The denial or revocation of White House press credentials is appealable to Congress.
- (n) The President shall not after their first 30 days after being sworn in remove from their position any Inspector General, Special Counsel, or other government watchdogs without publishing to the public a specific instance of good cause and without the concurrence of Congress.
- (o) No officer of the United States shall promote businesses they have an ownership interest in or which a relative has a significant ownership interest in.

- (p) No elected official shall commence active campaigning for re-election including holding campaign rallies or fundraising events until at least one other person opens an exploratory committee, begins campaigning for or declares their candidacy for the same position the elected official holds.
- (q) By official means
- a. The President will not comment on government employees recusing themselves from cases, issues, or deals
 - b. No employee of the united states will invite, incite, support, or encourage violence other than lawful acts by the United States military against enemies of the United States
 - c. No employee of the united states will engage in Ad homonym attacks
 - d. No employee of the united states other than the Attorney General of the United States, a United States Attorney or employee thereof
 - i. will call for the incarceration of individuals who are not yet charged with crimes and whose case they are not actively involved in or supervising
 - ii. shall attempt to influence a witness in a case
 - iii. shall attempt to influence a defendant in a criminal case
 - e. No employee of the united states will attack the legitimacy of courts or sitting federal or non-federal judges or justices unless they are actively involved in impeachment activity against said judge or justice.
 - f. No employee of the united states will knowingly make a false statement
- (s) Any presidential declaration of emergency under the National Emergencies Act 50 U.S.C. §§ 1601–1651 may be objected to by means of a written declaration of objection by more than ten percent of the members of each of the House and Senate which shall be presented to the Speaker of the House and the Senate Majority Leader. The House and Senate shall, each within 24 hours of receipt of the written declaration of objection by the Speaker of the House and the Senate Majority Leader, hold a roll call vote as to whether to allow the presidential declaration of emergency to remain active or to invalidate it. The presidential declaration of emergency shall be invalidated by a simple majority roll call vote in each of the House of Representatives and Senate.
- (t) Any presidential invocation of the Insurrection Act 10 USC §§ 251-255 may be objected to by means of a written declaration of objection by more than ten percent of the members of each of the House and Senate which shall be presented to the Speaker of the House and the Senate Majority Leader. The House and Senate shall, each within 24 hours of receipt of the written declaration of objection by the Speaker of the House and the Senate Majority Leader, hold a roll call vote as to whether to allow the presidential declaration of emergency to remain active or to invalidate it. The presidential invocation of the Insurrection Act shall be invalidated by a simple majority roll call vote in each of the House of Representatives and Senate.