CONDUIT CONTRIBUTION PREVENTION ACT

INCREASE CRIMINAL PENALTY FOR WILLFUL CONDUIT CONTRIBUTIONS	
CURRENT	Current penalty is at misdemeanor level (not more than one year and a fine not to exceed the greater of $25,000 or 300% of the amount involved in the violation) . It is not taken seriously, and federal prosecutors tend to avoid prosecuting misdemeanors.
PROPOSED	Provide for imprisonment of "not more than 2 years." Provide for fine of "not less than 300 percent of the amount involved in the violation" and not "more than the greater of $50,000 or 1000 percent of the amount involved in the violation."

INCREASE CIVIL PENALTIES FOR WILLFUL CONDUIT CONTRIBUTIONS	
CURRENT	In the case of a knowing and willful violation, the civil penalty cannot exceed the greater of $10,000 or an amount equal to 200 percent of the amount involved in the violation.
PROPOSED	Increase the civil penalty to not less than 300 percent of the amount involved in the violation and not more than the greater of either $50,000 or 1000 percent of the amount involved in the violation.

BAN FOREIGN DISBURSEMENTS	
CURRENT	Foreign nationals currently prohibited from making disbursements for political purposes are able to exploit loopholes. For example, people who do not have a green card are able to contribute for redistricting.
PROPOSED	Close loophole which allows foreign nationals to contribute. This will <u>not</u> exclude anyone currently eligible to contribute.

MANDATORY REFERRAL BY THE FEC TO THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
CURRENT	If the FEC finds probable cause for a "knowing and willful" conduit violation, it "may" refer the conduct to DOJ.
PROPOSED	Replace "may" with "shall."