

Hall of the House of Representatives
95th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2025
Amendment Form

Subtitle of House Bill 1800

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING DISCLOSURE FOR CAMPAIGN FINANCE; TO
REQUIRE DISCLOSURE BY AGENTS OF A FOREIGN PRINCIPAL; AND TO AMEND
PORTIONS OF THE ARKANSAS CODE THAT RESULTED FROM INITIATED ACT 1 OF
1990.

Amendment No. 1 to House Bill 1800

Amend House Bill 1800 as originally introduced:

Page 1, line 10, delete "AGENTS OF" and substitute "A REPRESENTATIVE OF A
NON-UNITED STATES ENTITY"

AND

Page 1, line 11, delete "A FOREIGN PRINCIPAL"

AND

Delete the subtitle in its entirety, and substitute the following:

"TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING DISCLOSURE
FOR CAMPAIGN FINANCE; TO REQUIRE
DISCLOSURE BY REPRESENTATIVES OF A NON-
UNITED STATES ENTITY; AND TO AMEND
PORTIONS OF THE ARKANSAS CODE THAT
RESULTED FROM INITIATED ACT 1 OF 1990."

AND



Delete SECTION 5 in its entirety and substitute the following:

"SECTION 5. Arkansas Code Title 21, Chapter 8, is amended to add an additional subchapter to read as follows:

Subchapter 11 — Disclosure by Representatives of a Non-United States Entity or a Non-United States-supported Political Organization

21-8-1101. Legislative findings.

The General Assembly finds that:

(1) The voters, citizens, and policymakers of this state are entitled to transparency in the political and propaganda activities of organizations that may be controlled by or under the influence of foreign countries hostile to the interests of this state and of the United States;

(2) In an increasingly globalized world, determining whether an organization's political and propaganda activities are funded by hostile foreign interests is often difficult; and

(3) Legislation is needed to ensure the transparency necessary to allow voters, citizens, and policymakers to evaluate whether political and propaganda activities are funded by potentially hostile foreign actors.

21-8-1102. Definitions.

As used in this subchapter:

(1) "Hostile foreign nation" means the:

(A) People's Republic of China;

(B) Russian Federation;

(C) Democratic People's Republic of Korea; or

(D) Islamic Republic of Iran;

(2) "Non-United States entity" means:

(A) A government of a foreign country, a political party of a foreign country, or any member of a political party of a foreign country;

(B) A nonresident alien of a foreign country;

(C) A partnership, association, corporation, organization, or other combination of persons organized under the law of or having its principal place of business in a foreign country; or

(D) A domestic partnership, association, corporation,

organization, or other combination of persons that is at least twenty percent (20%) beneficially owned by:

(i) A foreign government;

(ii) A nonresident alien of a foreign country; or

(iii) An entity organized under the laws of or

having its principal place of business in a foreign country;

(3) "Non-United States-supported political organization" means a political party or a domestic partnership, association, corporation, organization, or any other combination of persons that has, within the past five (5) calendar years, received money or other things of value from a non-United States entity or a representative of a non-United States entity and that engages in political activity;

(4) "Political activity" means an activity that is performed to influence an agency or public official of this state, a local government entity within this state, or the public within this state, with reference to:

(A) Formulating, adopting, or changing the policies or laws of this state; or

(B) Electing or opposing a candidate for local or state public office, not including campaign donations; and

(5) "Representative of a non-United States entity" means:

(A) A person whose actions are financed in whole or in part by a non-United States entity; and

(B) A person who engages in political activity.

21-8-1103. Transparency in representation of non-United States entities.

(a)(1) Except as otherwise provided in this subchapter, a person shall not act as a representative of a non-United States entity unless the person has filed a true and complete registration statement and supplements with the Secretary of State as required by this subchapter.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a person who becomes a representative of a non-United States entity shall file a registration statement under oath with the Secretary of State within ten (10) days of the person's becoming a representative of a non-United States entity.

(3) The obligation of a representative of a non-United States entity to file a registration statement, after the tenth day of becoming a

representative of a non-United States entity, shall continue from day to day, and termination of status as a representative of a non-United States entity shall not relieve the representative of a non-United States entity from the obligation to file a registration statement for the period during which he or she was a representative of a non-United States entity.

(b) The registration statement required under this section shall include the following:

(1) The registrant's:

(A) Name;

(B) Principal business address;

(C) Other business addresses in the United States or elsewhere; and

(D) Residence addresses, if any;

(2) A comprehensive statement of the nature of the registrant's business;

(3)(A) A statement of the nature of the work of each non-United States entity for which the registrant is acting, assuming, or purporting to act or has agreed to act, and the character of the business or other activities of each non-United States entity.

(B) If the non-United States entity is not a natural person, the registration statement shall also detail the degree to which the non-United States entity is supervised, directed, owned, controlled, financed, or subsidized in whole or in part by any:

(i) Government of a foreign country or foreign political party; or

(ii) Other non-United States entity; and

(4) Any other statements, information, or documents that the Secretary of State may require.

(c) A registered representative of a non-United States entity under this subchapter shall update the registration statement required under this section no less frequently than quarterly.

21-8-1104. Transparency in non-United States-supported political organizations.

(a) No later than January 31, 2026, and each following year, each non-United States-supported political organization shall register with the

Secretary of State and provide the following information:

(1) The name of the non-United States-supported political organization, its business address, and upon request the names, titles, and addresses of all officers and directors of the non-United States-supported political organization;

(2) If the non-United States-supported political organization is affiliated with or a chapter of a national organization, the name of the national organization, its address, and the names and addresses of its officers and directors;

(3) A detailed statement of any expenditures of money or other things of value made by the non-United States-supported political organization within the prior calendar year to influence an agency or public official of this state, a local government entity within this state, or the public within this state, with reference to formulating, adopting, or changing the policies or laws of this state or electing a candidate to local or state public office; and

(4) A detailed statement of all money or other thing of value received by the non-United States-supported political organization from a non-United States entity or a representative of a non-United States entity during the prior calendar year.

(b) A non-United States-supported political organization under this subchapter shall update the registration statement required under this section no less frequently than quarterly.

21-8-1105. Penalties for violation.

(a) Upon receipt of a complaint that a representative of a non-United States entity or a non-United States-supported political organization has failed to comply with the registration and reporting requirements of this subchapter, or upon his or her own determination, the Secretary of State may investigate and assess penalties for the violation of this subchapter.

(b) The Secretary of State may assess the following civil penalties:

(1) For any violation of this subchapter, up to five hundred dollars (\$500) per violation; and

(2) For willful or repeated violations of this subchapter, up to two thousand dollars (\$2,000) per violation.

(c) The Secretary of State may assess the following civil penalties

for willful or repeated violations of this subchapter in which the non-United States entity involves a hostile foreign nation:

(1) Up to ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) per violation;

and

(2) An order of debarment against the non-United States entity

and the:

(A) Representative of the non-United States entity; or

(B) Non-United States-supported political organization.

(d) The Secretary of State may refer any matter involving a violation of this subchapter to the:

(1) Attorney General for further civil action; or

(2) Prosecuting attorney for criminal action.

21-8-1106. Rules.

The Secretary of State shall promulgate rules necessary to:

(1) Create and maintain registration statement forms as described under this subchapter; and

(2) Implement this subchapter."

The Amendment was read _____
By: Representative McAlindon
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Chief Clerk