

ARKANSAS SENATE
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 REPRESENTATIVES OF A NON-UNITED STATES ENTITY;
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 engrossed H4/1/25 (version: 4/1/25 10:18:21 AM):

Page 1, delete line 11, and substitute "REPRESENTATIVE OF A HOSTILE FOREIGN
PRINCIPAL; TO"

AND

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

"TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING DISCLOSURE
FOR CAMPAIGN FINANCE; TO REQUIRE
DISCLOSURE BY A REPRESENTATIVE OF A
HOSTILE FOREIGN PRINCIPAL; 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:

Subchapter 11 — Disclosure by Representatives of a Hostile
Foreign Principal



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) "Foreign-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 hostile foreign principal or a representative of a hostile foreign principal and that engages in political activity;

(2) "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;

(3) "Hostile foreign principal" means:

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

(B) A nonresident alien of a hostile foreign nation; or

(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 hostile foreign nation;

(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 hostile foreign principal" means a person:

(A) Who acts as an agent, employee, representative, or servant, or otherwise acts at the order, request, or under the direction or control of a hostile foreign principal;

(B) Whose actions are financed in whole or in part by a hostile foreign principal; and

(C) Who engages in political activity.

21-8-1103. Transparency in representation of hostile foreign principals.

(a)(1) Except as otherwise provided in this subchapter, a person shall not act as a representative of a hostile foreign principal unless the person has filed a true and complete registration statement 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 hostile foreign principal 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 hostile foreign principal.

(3) The obligation of a representative of a hostile foreign principal to file a registration statement, after the tenth day of becoming a representative of a hostile foreign principal, shall continue from day to day, and termination of status as a representative of a hostile foreign principal shall not relieve the representative of a hostile foreign principal from the obligation to file a registration statement for the period during which he or she was a representative of a hostile foreign principal.

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

(c) A registered representative of a hostile foreign principal under
this subchapter shall update the registration statement required under this
section no less frequently than quarterly.

21-8-1104. Transparency in foreign-supported political organizations.

(a) No later than January 31, 2026, and each following year, each
foreign-supported political organization shall register with the Secretary of
State and provide the following information:

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

(2) If the foreign-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 foreign-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 foreign-supported political organization from a hostile
foreign principal or a representative of a hostile foreign principal during
the prior calendar year.

(b) A foreign-supported political organization under this subchapter
shall update the registration statement required under this section no less
frequently than annually.

21-8-1105. Penalties for violation.

(a) Upon receipt of a complaint that a representative of a hostile foreign principal or a foreign-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.

21-8-1106. Rules.

The Secretary of State shall promulgate rules to:

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

(2) Implement this subchapter."

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and _____

By: Senator M. McKee

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Secretary