

## S 625

### Foreign Agents Registration Modernization and Enforcement Act

**Congress:** 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** International Affairs

**Introduced:** Mar 14, 2017

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. (Mar 14, 2017)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/625>

## Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** NH • **Chamber:** Senate

## Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Young, Todd [R-IN]	R · IN		Mar 14, 2017
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Mar 21, 2017
Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]	D · MD		Mar 21, 2017
Sen. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL]	D · IL		Aug 3, 2017

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Foreign Relations Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 14, 2017

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

International Affairs

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 HR 6249	Related bill	Jun 27, 2018: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice.
115 HR 2811	Identical bill	Jul 12, 2017: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.

## **Foreign Agents Registration Modernization and Enforcement Act**

This bill amends the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938 (FARA) to provide that whenever the Department of Justice (DOJ) has reason to believe that a person or enterprise may be in possession or control of documentary material relevant to an investigation under FARA, the DOJ, before initiating a civil or criminal proceeding with respect to the production of such material, may serve a written demand upon the entity to produce the material for examination.

The bill includes social media communications under information that foreign agents must file with DOJ. Under certain circumstances, social media communications are exempted from the requirement for foreign agents to include a disclosure statement in informational materials. Informational materials disseminated by a foreign agent as part of an activity that would not require registration, need not be filed.

The FARA Registration Unit shall submit a semiannual report to Congress regarding the administration of FARA, including the number of investigations initiated based upon a perceived violation and the number of such investigations that were referred to DOJ for prosecution.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Mar 14, 2017:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 14, 2017:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.