

S 4797

Chinese-Backed Media Accountability Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Immigration

Introduced: Oct 5, 2020

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Oct 5, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/4797>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Scott, Rick [R-FL]

Party: Republican • **State:** FL • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Blackburn, Marsha [R-TN]	R · TN		Oct 5, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Oct 5, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Immigration

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Chinese-Backed Media Accountability Act

This bill places restrictions on nonimmigrant visas for journalists from China who work for a Chinese state-run media organization.

The Department of State shall report to Congress on the number of Chinese nationals who (1) work as journalists for an organization identified as a Chinese state-run media organization (or whose work product is effectively controlled by China's government or the Chinese Communist Party); (2) were in the United States on the date this bill was enacted; and (3) were issued an H-1B, I-1, or L-1 visa in the past year. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services may not approve a petition for one of these visas for such a Chinese journalist until the State Department submits this report, which shall be due within 30 days of this bill's enactment. The State Department shall update this report every two years and provide other related information.

In addition, the State Department's Bureau of Consular Affairs must ensure that (1) the number of such visas issued to Chinese journalists does not exceed the number of U.S. journalists in China, and (2) such a visa is valid for no longer than 90 days.

The bill identifies specific organizations, such as China Central Television and the People's Daily, as Chinese state-run media organizations, and directs the State Department to identify any other organizations that qualify as such.

Actions Timeline

- **Oct 5, 2020:** Introduced in Senate
- **Oct 5, 2020:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.