

HR 4737

Foreign Extortion Prevention Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: Jul 28, 2021

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security. (Nov 1, 2022)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/4737>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18]

Party: Democratic • **State:** TX • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (10 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9] | D · TN | | Jul 28, 2021 |
| Rep. Curtis, John R. [R-UT-3] | R · UT | | Jul 28, 2021 |
| Rep. Fitzpatrick, Brian K. [R-PA-1] | R · PA | | Jul 28, 2021 |
| Rep. Kaptur, Marcy [D-OH-9] | D · OH | | Jul 28, 2021 |
| Rep. Keating, William R. [D-MA-9] | D · MA | | Jul 28, 2021 |
| Rep. Malinowski, Tom [D-NJ-7] | D · NJ | | Jul 28, 2021 |
| Rep. Phillips, Dean [D-MN-3] | D · MN | | Jul 28, 2021 |
| Rep. Porter, Katie [D-CA-45] | D · CA | | Jul 28, 2021 |
| Rep. Salazar, Maria Elvira [R-FL-27] | R · FL | | Jul 28, 2021 |
| Rep. Spanberger, Abigail Davis [D-VA-7] | D · VA | | Jul 28, 2021 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|---------------------|---------|-------------|-------------|
| Judiciary Committee | House | Referred to | Nov 1, 2022 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|-------------|----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 117 HR 5209 | Related bill | Nov 1, 2022: Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship. |
| 117 S 3137 | Identical bill | Nov 2, 2021: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. |

Foreign Extortion Prevention Act

This bill establishes a federal criminal offense involving bribery by foreign officials.

Specifically, the bill makes it a crime for foreign officials to demand or accept anything of value personally or for another person or a nongovernmental entity to influence the performance of an official act or otherwise confer an improper advantage.

The bill explicitly grants extraterritorial jurisdiction over the offense.

A violation is subject to criminal penalties—a fine, a prison term of up to 15 years, or both.

Finally, the bill establishes a Victims of Kleptocracy Fund in the Treasury and directs fines and penalties for violations to be deposited into the fund for anti-corruption initiatives.

Actions Timeline

- **Nov 1, 2022:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.
- **Jul 28, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 28, 2021:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.