

HR 4847

Foreign Political Influence Elimination Act of 2021

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Government Operations and Politics

Introduced: Jul 29, 2021

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties. (Nov 1, 2022)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/4847>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Porter, Katie [D-CA-45]

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

Cosponsors (6 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Suozzi, Thomas R. [D-NY-3]	D · NY		Aug 6, 2021
Rep. Cooper, Jim [D-TN-5]	D · TN		Aug 10, 2021
Rep. Titus, Dina [D-NV-1]	D · NV		Aug 13, 2021
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Aug 20, 2021
Rep. Demings, Val Butler [D-FL-10]	D · FL		Oct 8, 2021
Rep. Mfume, Kweisi [D-MD-7]	D · MD		Nov 14, 2022

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Committee on House Administration	House	Referred To	Jul 29, 2021
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Nov 1, 2022

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 S 1724	Related bill	May 20, 2021: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S3196)

Foreign Political Influence Elimination Act of 2021

This bill expands the prohibition on campaign spending by foreign nationals. It also revises foreign-agent disclosure requirements.

Specifically, the bill expands the ban on campaign spending by foreign nationals to include corporations that are subject to specified levels of ownership or control by foreign nationals or governments.

The bill prohibits certain types of tax-exempt, foreign-affiliated organizations from taking certain campaign-related actions, such as contributing to a super political action committee.

Further, the bill prohibits foreign nationals from (1) participating in the decision-making process regarding an election expenditure, or (2) making contributions in connection with state or local ballot initiatives or referenda.

The bill prohibits political committees from accepting direct or bundled contributions from registered foreign agents.

Next, the bill makes various changes to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938 (FARA), such as by (1) repealing an exemption from FARA requirements for individuals registered as lobbyists, and (2) expanding filing and labeling requirements related to the transmission of informational materials in the interests of a foreign principal.

In addition, the bill provides the Department of Justice (DOJ) with a mechanism to demand evidence for investigating compliance with FARA.

Further, the bill provides for various civil penalties for failing to meet agent registration requirements. The foreign principal of a penalized agent may not pay the imposed fines.

DOJ must establish a unit for the investigation and enforcement of FARA.

The Government Accountability Office must analyze the effectiveness of FARA enforcement.

Actions Timeline

- **Nov 1, 2022:** Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties.
- **Jul 29, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 29, 2021:** Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.