

S 1296

DETERRENT Act

Congress: 119 (2025–2027, Current)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Education

Introduced: Apr 3, 2025

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (Apr 3, 2025)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/senate-bill/1296>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Tillis, Thomas [R-NC]

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

Cosponsors (14 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Blackburn, Marsha [R-TN]	R · TN		Apr 3, 2025
Sen. Capito, Shelley Moore [R-WV]	R · WV		Apr 3, 2025
Sen. Cassidy, Bill [R-LA]	R · LA		Apr 3, 2025
Sen. Cornyn, John [R-TX]	R · TX		Apr 3, 2025
Sen. Ernst, Joni [R-IA]	R · IA		Apr 3, 2025
Sen. Grassley, Chuck [R-IA]	R · IA		Apr 3, 2025
Sen. Lummis, Cynthia M. [R-WY]	R · WY		Apr 3, 2025
Sen. Ricketts, Pete [R-NE]	R · NE		Apr 3, 2025
Sen. Risch, James E. [R-ID]	R · ID		Apr 3, 2025
Sen. Schmitt, Eric [R-MO]	R · MO		Apr 3, 2025
Sen. Scott, Rick [R-FL]	R · FL		Apr 3, 2025
Sen. Crapo, Mike [R-ID]	R · ID		Apr 7, 2025
Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]	R · ME		Jun 2, 2025
Sen. Rounds, Mike [R-SD]	R · SD		Jul 22, 2025

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Apr 3, 2025

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Education

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
119 HR 1048	Related bill	Mar 31, 2025: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Summary (as of Apr 3, 2025)

Defending Education Transparency and Ending Rogue Regimes Engaging in Nefarious Transactions Act or the DETERRENT Act

This bill expands oversight and disclosure requirements related to foreign sources and institutions of higher education (IHEs).

Specifically, the bill requires an IHE to annually disclose to the Department of Education (ED) any year in which the IHE

- receives a gift from a foreign country of concern (e.g., China or Russia) or foreign entity of concern of any dollar amount;
- receives a gift or contract from a foreign source (other than a foreign country of concern or foreign entity of concern) that is valued at \$50,000 or more, considered alone or in combination with all other gifts or contracts within a calendar year (current disclosure threshold is \$250,000 or more), or which has an undetermined monetary value;
- enters into a contract with a foreign country of concern or foreign entity of concern after receiving a waiver for such contract; or
- is substantially controlled by a foreign source.

Additionally, the bill

- prohibits IHEs from entering into contracts with a foreign country of concern or with a foreign entity of concern without obtaining a waiver, and
- requires certain IHEs to disclose gifts or contracts between covered individuals (e.g., researchers) and foreign sources.

The bill requires ED to investigate possible violations of this bill and outlines the various penalties for each violation. Penalties may include losing eligibility for federal student financial aid.

Actions Timeline

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