

Calendar No. 365

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION**S. 4164**

To prohibit the expenditure of Federal funds for the establishment or operation of the Disinformation Governance Board in the Department of Homeland Security.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 9, 2022

Mr. PAUL introduced the following bill; which was read the first time

MAY 10, 2022

Read the second time and placed on the calendar

A BILL

To prohibit the expenditure of Federal funds for the establishment or operation of the Disinformation Governance Board in the Department of Homeland Security.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Defund the Ministry
5 of Truth Act of 2022”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) The Federal Government is not the sole ar-
2 biter of truth in a free society.

3 (2) Efforts by the Federal Government to cen-
4 sor dissenting voices is a violation of the First
5 Amendment rights of the American people.

6 (3) Efforts by the Federal Government to label
7 or categorize speech as misinformation,
8 disinformation, or malinformation does not lessen or
9 vitiate the First Amendment rights of the American
10 people.

11 (4) The Federal Government is itself prolific in
12 the dissemination of misinformation, disinformation,
13 and malinformation.

14 (5) George Orwell's novel, *1984*, which was
15 originally published in 1949, was a cautionary tale
16 and a warning to future generations and was not in-
17 tended to be an instruction manual for government
18 repression.

19 **SEC. 3. PROHIBITION AGAINST FEDERAL FUNDING FOR**
20 **THE DISINFORMATION GOVERNANCE BOARD.**

21 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no Fed-
22 eral funding may be expended for the establishment or op-
23 eration of the Department of Homeland Security
24 Disinformation Governance Board or any successor entity
25 to the Disinformation Governance Board.

1 **SEC. 4. CONFORMING AMENDMENT TO THE HOMELAND SE-**
2 **CURITY ACT OF 2002.**

3 Section 2202(i) of the Homeland Security Act of
4 2002 (6 U.S.C. 652(i)) is amended—

5 (1) in the subsection heading by inserting
6 “PROVISIONS” after “**SAVINGS**”;

7 (2) by striking “may be construed as affecting”
8 and inserting the following: “may be construed as—

9 “(1) affecting”;

10 (3) by striking the period at the end and insert-
11 ing “; or”; and

12 (4) by adding at the end the following:

13 “(2) authorizing the establishment of any mis-
14 information, disinformation, or malinformation
15 working group, disinformation governance board, or
16 any similar entity within the Department of Home-
17 land Security (or any component thereof) unless
18 such entity is explicitly authorized by an Act of Con-
19 gress that is enacted after the date of the enactment
20 of the Defund the Ministry of Truth Act of 2022.”.

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