

119<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 8809

To amend the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended to clarify the definition of “foreign principal” and ensure transparency in lobbying on behalf of foreign interests.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 14, 2026

Mr. MASSIE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To amend the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended to clarify the definition of “foreign principal” and ensure transparency in lobbying on behalf of foreign interests.

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 “Americans Insist on  
5 Political Agent Clarity Act” or the “AIPAC Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1           (1) The Foreign Agents Registration Act of  
2           1938, as amended (22 U.S.C. 611 et seq.) serves  
3           compelling interests in national security and trans-  
4           parency.

5           (2) Disclosure requirements do not abridge free  
6           speech or association, as upheld in *Meese v. Keene*  
7           (1987) as well as *Attorney General v. Irish Northern*  
8           *Aid Committee* (1972).

9           (3) Entities engaged in substantial advocacy  
10          aligned with foreign state interests should disclose  
11          such alignment to the public.

12 **SEC. 3. CLARIFICATION OF FOREIGN PRINCIPAL STATUS.**

13          (a) DEFINITION OF FOREIGN PRINCIPAL.—Section  
14          1(b) of the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as  
15          amended (22 U.S.C. 611(b)) is amended—

16               (1) in paragraph (2), by striking “and” after  
17               “United States;”;

18               (2) in paragraph (3), by striking the period at  
19               the end and inserting “; and”; and

20               (3) by inserting after paragraph (3) the fol-  
21               lowing:

22                       “(4) any organization, association, corporation,  
23                       or other entity—

24                               “(A) that is organized under the laws of  
25                               the United States or any State;

1           “(B) that does not directly receive funding  
2 or instruction from a foreign government, rec-  
3 ognized state-affiliated political entities, or for-  
4 eign entity otherwise described in paragraph  
5 (1), (2), or (3);

6           “(C) whose lobbying activities or stated  
7 mission is, either wholly or in part, to influence  
8 United States public policy or government ac-  
9 tion in furtherance of the political or economic  
10 interests of a foreign country or recognized  
11 state-affiliated political entity; and

12           “(D) where such foreign country or recog-  
13 nized state-affiliated political entity is identified  
14 as a principal beneficiary of such lobbying activ-  
15 ity as demonstrated by a preponderance of ob-  
16 jective indicia, including—

17                   “(i) repeated advocacy of legislation  
18 or executive action that aligns with the for-  
19 eign country’s official diplomatic objectives;

20                   “(ii) coordination with foreign officials  
21 or foreign-funded institutions;

22                   “(iii) receipt of material support, stra-  
23 tegic direction, or advisory participation by  
24 persons domiciled or operating in a foreign  
25 country; or

1                   “(iv) the namesake of the lobbying ac-  
2                   tivity includes the name of a foreign na-  
3                   tion.”.

4           (b) PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.—Section 8 of the  
5 Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended (22  
6 U.S.C. 618) is amended by adding at the end the following  
7 new subsection:

8           “(i) Any citizen of the United States may file a com-  
9 plaint with the Department of Justice requesting inves-  
10 tigation of potential violations of this Act by an agent of  
11 a foreign principal (as described in section 1(b)(4)).”.

12 **SEC. 4. IMPLEMENTATION GUIDANCE.**

13           Not later than 180 days after the enactment of this  
14 Act, the Attorney General shall issue public guidance to  
15 clarify the application of the amended definition of “for-  
16 eign principal” under section 1(b)(4) of the Foreign  
17 Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended (22 U.S.C.  
18 611(b)(4)), which shall include illustrative examples, ob-  
19 jective indicia of foreign political alignment, and compli-  
20 ance expectations for affected organizations.

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