

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.  
The yeas and nays were ordered.  
The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

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**ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE**

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. JACKSON LEE). Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Ordering the previous question on House Resolution 650; and

Adoption of House Resolution 650, if ordered.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

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**PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4617, STOPPING HARMFUL INTERFERENCE IN ELECTIONS FOR A LASTING DEMOCRACY ACT**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on ordering the previous question on the resolution (H. Res. 650) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4617) to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to clarify the obligation to report acts of foreign election influence and require implementation of compliance and reporting systems by Federal campaigns to detect and report such acts, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 223, nays 180, not voting 28, as follows:

[Roll No. 579]

**YEAS—223**

Adams	Castor (FL)	DeGette
Aguilar	Castro (TX)	DeLauro
Allred	Chu, Judy	DelBene
Axne	Cicilline	Delgado
Barragán	Cisneros	Demings
Bass	Clark (MA)	DeSaulnier
Beatty	Clarke (NY)	Deutch
Bera	Clay	Dingell
Beyer	Cleaver	Doggett
Bishop (GA)	Clyburn	Doyle, Michael
Blumenauer	Cohen	F.
Blunt Rochester	Connolly	Engel
Bonamici	Cooper	Escobar
Boyle, Brendan	Correa	Espaillat
F.	Costa	Finkenauer
Brindisi	Courtney	Fletcher
Brown (MD)	Cox (CA)	Foster
Brownley (CA)	Craig	Frankel
Bustos	Crist	Gallego
Butterfield	Crow	Garamendi
Carbajal	Cuellar	García (IL)
Cárdenas	Cunningham	García (TX)
Carson (IN)	Davids (KS)	Golden
Cartwright	Davis (CA)	Gomez
Case	Dean	Gonzalez (TX)
Casten (IL)	DeFazio	Gottheimer

Green, Al (TX)	Lynch	Sarbanes	Scalise	Stewart
Grijalva	Malinowski	Scanlon	Schweikert	Taylor
Haaland	Maloney,	Schakowsky	Scott, Austin	Webster (FL)
Harder (CA)	Carolyn B.	Schiff	Sensenbrenner	Wenstrup
Hastings	Maloney, Sean	Schneider	Shimkus	Westerman
Hayes	Matsui	Schrader	Simpson	Williams
Heck	McAdams	Schrier	Smith (MO)	Wilson (SC)
Higgins (NY)	McBath	Scott (VA)	Smith (NE)	Wittman
Hill (CA)	McCollum	Scott, David	Smith (NJ)	Womack
Himes	McGovern	Serrano	Spano	Woodall
Horn, Kendra S.	McNerney	Sewell (AL)	Stauber	Yoho
Houlahan	Meeks	Shalala	Stefanik	Waltz
Hoyer	Meng	Sherman	Steube	Watkins
Huffman	Moulton	Sherrill		Zeldin
Jackson Lee	Mucarsel-Powell	Sires		
Jayapal	Murphy (FL)	Slotkin	NOT VOTING—28	
Jeffries	Nadler	Smith (WA)	Amodei	Gabbard
Johnson (GA)	Napolitano	Soto	Bergman	Grothman
Johnson (TX)	Neal	Spanberger	Bilirakis	Joyce (PA)
Kaptur	Neguse	Speier	Bishop (NC)	Collins (GA)
Keating	Norcross	Stanton	Keller	Steil
Kelly (IL)	O'Halleran	Stevens	Davis, Danny K.	Lowey
Kennedy	Ocasio-Cortez	Suozzi	Eshoo	McBachin
Khanna	Omar	Swalwell (CA)	Estes	Meuser
Kildee	Pallone	Thompson (CA)	Evans	Morelle
Kilmer	Panetta	Thompson (MS)	Fudge	Peters
Kim	Pappas	Titus		
Kind	Pascarella	Tlaib		
Kirkpatrick	Perlmutter	Tonko		
Krishnamoorthi	Peterson	Torres (CA)		
Kuster (NH)	Phillips	Torres Small		
Lamb	Pingree	(NM)		
Langevin	Pocan	Trahan		
Larsen (WA)	Porter	Trone		
Larson (CT)	Pressley	Underwood		
Lawrence	Lawson (FL)	Van Drew		
Lee (CA)	Price (NC)	Vargas		
Lee (NV)	Quigley	Veasey		
Levin (CA)	Raskin	Vela		
Levin (MI)	Richmond	Velázquez		
Lewis	Rose (NY)	Rice (NY)		
Lieu, Ted	Rouda	Visclosky		
Lipinski	Royer-Ball-Allard	Wasserman		
Loebssack	Ruiz	Schultz		
Lofgren	Ruppersberger	Waters		
Lowenthal	Rush	Watson Coleman		
Luján	Ryan	Wexton		
Luria	Sánchez	Wild		
		Wilson (FL)		
		Yarmuth		

**NAYS—180**

Abraham	Fitzpatrick	LaHood	Adams	Cooper	Golden
Aderholt	Fleischmann	LaMalfa	Aguilar	Correa	Gomez
Allen	Flores	Lamborn	Allred	Costa	Gonzalez (TX)
Amash	Fortenberry	Latta	Axne	Courtney	Gottheimer
Armstrong	Foxx (NC)	Lesko	Barragán	Cox (CA)	Green, Al (TX)
Arrington	Fulcher	Long	Bass	Craig	Grijalva
Babin	Gaetz	Loudermilk	Beatty	Crist	Haaland
Bacon	Gallagher	Lucas	Bera	Crow	Harder (CA)
Baird	Gianforte	Luetkemeyer	Beyer	Cuellar	Hastings
Balderson	Gibbs	Marchant	Bishop (GA)	Cunningham	Hayes
Banks	Gohmert	Marshall	Blumenauer	Davids (KS)	Heck
Barr	Gonzalez (OH)	Massie	Blunt Rochester	Davis (CA)	Higgins (NY)
Biggs	Gooden	Mast	Bonamici	Davis, Danny K.	Hill (CA)
Bishop (UT)	Gosar	McCarthy	Boyle, Brendan	Dean	Himes
Bost	Granger	McCaull	F.	DeFazio	Horn, Kendra S.
Brady	Graves (GA)	McClintock	Brindisi	DeGette	Horsford
Brooks (AL)	Graves (LA)	McHenry	Brown (MD)	DeLauro	Houlahan
Brooks (IN)	Graves (MO)	McKinley	Brownley (CA)	DelBene	Hoyer
Buchanan	Green (TN)	Meadows	Bustos	Delgado	Huffman
Buck	Griffith	Miller	Butterfield	Demings	Jackson Lee
Bucson	Guest	Mitchell	Carbajal	DeSaulnier	Jayapal
Budd	Guthrie	Moolenaar	Cárdenas	Deutch	Jeffries
Burgess	Hagedorn	Mooney (WV)	Pence	Carson (IN)	Johnson (GA)
Harris	Harris	Mullin	Perry	Dingell	Johnson (TX)
Hartzler	Hartzel	Higgins (LA)	Case	Doyle, Michael	Kaptur
Hern, Kevin	Hern	Hill (AR)	Casten (IL)	F.	Keating
Herrera Beutler	Herrera Beutler	Holzberg	Castor (FL)	Engel	Kelly (IL)
Hice (GA)	Hice	Hollingsworth	Reed	Fletcher	Kim
Higgins (LA)	Higgins	Hudson	Rogers (AL)	Clark (MA)	Kennedy
Hill (AR)	Cheney	Perry	Rogers (KY)	Fletcher	Kind
Holding	Holding	Posey	Clarke (NY)	Foster	Kirkpatrick
Hollingsworth	Cloud	Ratcliffe	Clarke (MS)	Escobar	Krishnamoorthi
Hudson	Hudson	Reed	Clarke (FL)	Judy	Khanna
Hunter	Hudson	Rogers (WA)	Rooney (FL)	Espaillat	Kilmer
Jordan	Hudson	Rogers (AL)	Rose, John W.	Rouzer	Deutch
Katko	Jordan	Rogers (KY)	Rouzer	Roy	Deutch
Kelly (MS)	Katko	Riggleman	Rutherford	Rutherford	Connolly
Diaz-Balart	Kelly (MS)	Rodgers (MS)			
Duncan	Duncan	Rubio			
King (IA)	King (IA)	Rubio			
Dunn	King (NY)	Rubio			
Emmer	Kinzinger	Rutherford			
Ferguson	Kustoff (TN)				

Scalise	Schweikert	Taylor	Weber (TX)
Scott, Austin	Sensenbrenner	Thornberry	Webster (FL)
Shimkus	Turner	Wenstrup	Westerman
Simpson	Upton	Williams	Williams
Smith (MO)	Walberg	Wittman	Wittman
Smith (NE)	Walder	Woodall	Woodall
Smith (NJ)	Walton	Yoho	Yoho
Sewell (AL)	Stauber	Zeldin	Zeldin
Shalala	Stefanik		
Sherman	Wagner		
Sherrill	Walton		
Sires	Womack		
Slotkin	Wright		
Smith (WA)	Yoho		
Soto	Zeldin		
Spanberger			
Speier			
Stanton			
Stevens			
Suozzi			
Swalwell (CA)			
Thompson (CA)			
Thompson (MS)			
Titus			
Tlaib			
Tonko			
Torres (CA)			
Torres Small			
(NM)			
Trahan			
Trone			
Underwood			
Van Drew			
Vargas			
Veasey			
Vela			
Velázquez			
Visclosky			
Wasserman			
Schultz			
Waters			
Watson Coleman			
Wexton			
Wild			
Wilson (FL)			
Yarmuth			

□ 1419

Messrs. LUCAS and GUEST changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Mr. HECK and Ms. WILD changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the previous question was ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mr. ESTES. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted “nay” on rollcall No. 579.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 226, nays 180, not voting 25, as follows:

[Roll No. 580]

**YEAS—226**

Adams	Cooper	Golden
Aguilar	Correa	Gomez
Allred	Costa	Gonzalez (TX)
Axne	Courtney	Gottheimer
Barragán	Barragán	Cox (CA)
Bass	Bass	Grijalva
Brady	Beatty	Haaland
Brock (AL)	Bera	Harder (CA)
Brooks (IN)	Beyer	Hastings
Buchanan	Bishop (GA)	Cunningham
Buck	Blumenauer	Hayes
Bucson	Blunt Rochester	Heck
Budd	Bonamici	Higgins (NY)
Burgess	Boyle, Brendan	Hill (CA)
Harris	F.	Himes
Hartzler	Brindisi	DeFazio
Hern, Kevin	DeGette	Horn, Kendra S.
Herrera Beutler	Brown (MD)	Horsford
Hice (GA)	Brownley (CA)	Houlahan
Higgins (LA)	Bustos	Hoyer
Hill (AR)	Butterfield	Huffman
Holding	Carbajal	Jackson Lee
Hollingsworth	DeSaulnier	Jayapal
Hudson	Deutch	Jeffries
Hudson	Davis (CA)	Johnson (GA)
Hudson	Davids (KS)	Johnson (TX)
Hudson	Davis, Danny K.	Kilmer
Hudson	Dean	Himes
Hudson	DeFazio	DeFazio
Hudson	DeGette	DeGette
Hudson	DeLauro	DeLauro
Hudson	DelBene	DelBene
Hudson	Delgado	Delgado
Hudson	Demings	Demings
Hudson	Deutch	Deutch
Hudson	Dingell	Dingell
Hudson	Doyle, Michael	Doyle, Michael
Hudson	Fowler	Fowler
Hudson	García (IL)	García (IL)
Hudson	García (TX)	García (TX)
Hudson	García (MS)	García (MS)
Hudson	García (FL)	García (FL)
Hudson	García (NY)	García (NY)
Hudson	García (PA)	García (PA)
Hudson	García (CA)	García (CA)
Hudson	García (TX)	García (TX)
Hudson	García (IL)	García (IL)
Hudson	García (MS)	García (MS)
Hudson	García (FL)	García (FL)
Hudson	García (NY)	García (NY)
Hudson	García (PA)	García (PA)
Hudson	García (CA)	García (CA)
Hudson	García (TX)	García (TX)
Hudson	García (IL)	García (IL)
Hudson	García (MS)	García (MS)
Hudson	García (FL)	García (FL)
Hudson	García (NY)	García (NY)
Hudson	García (PA)	García (PA)
Hudson	García (CA)	García (CA)
Hudson	García (TX)	García (TX)
Hudson	García (IL)	García (IL)
Hudson	García (MS)	García (MS)
Hudson	García (FL)	García (FL)
Hudson	García (NY)	García (NY)
Hudson	García (PA)	García (PA)
Hudson	García (CA)	García (CA)
Hudson	García (TX)	García (TX)
Hudson	García (IL)	García (IL)
Hudson	García (MS)	García (MS)
Hudson	García (FL)	García (FL)
Hudson	García (NY)	García (NY)
Hudson	García (PA)	García (PA)
Hudson	García (CA)	García (CA)
Hudson	García (TX)	García (TX)
Hudson	García (IL)	García (IL)
Hudson	García (MS)	García (MS)
Hudson	García (FL)	García (FL)
Hudson	García (NY)	García (NY)
Hudson	García (PA)	García (PA)
Hudson	García (CA)	García (CA)
Hudson	García (TX)	García (TX)
Hudson	García (IL)	García (IL)
Hudson	García (MS)	García (MS)
Hudson	García (FL)	García (FL)
Hudson	García (NY)	García (NY)
Hudson	García (PA)	García (PA)
Hudson	García (CA)	García (CA)
Hudson	García (TX)	García (TX)
Hudson	García (IL)	García (IL)
Hudson	García (MS)	García (MS)
Hudson	García (FL)	García (FL)
Hudson	García (NY)	García (NY)
Hudson	García (PA)	García (PA)
Hudson	García (CA)	García (CA)
Hudson	García (TX)	García (TX)
Hudson	García (IL)	García (IL)
Hudson	García (MS)	García (MS)
Hudson	García (FL)	García (FL)
Hudson	García (NY)	García (NY)
Hudson	García (PA)	García (PA)
Hudson	García (CA)	García (CA)
Hudson	García (TX)	García (TX)
Hudson	García (IL)	García (IL)
Hudson	García (MS)	García (MS)
Hudson	García (FL)	García (FL)
Hudson	García (NY)	García (NY)
Hudson	García (PA)	García (PA)
Hudson	García (CA)	García (CA)
Hudson	García (TX)	García (TX)
Hudson	García (IL)	García (IL)
Hudson	García (MS)	García (MS)
Hudson	García (FL)	García (FL)
Hudson	García (NY)	García (NY)
Hudson	García (PA)	García (PA)
Hudson	García (CA)	García (CA)
Hudson	García (TX)	García (TX)
Hudson	García (IL)	García (IL)
Hudson	García (MS)	García (MS)
Hudson	García (FL)	García (FL)
Hudson	García (NY)	García (NY)
Hudson	García (PA)	García (PA)
Hudson	García (CA)	García (CA)
Hudson	García (TX)	García (TX)
Hudson	García (IL)	García (IL)
Hudson	García (MS)	García (MS)
Hudson	García (FL)	García (FL)
Hudson	García (NY)	García (NY)
Hudson	García (PA)	García (PA)
Hudson	García (CA)	García (CA)
Hudson	García (TX)	García (TX)
Hudson	García (IL)	García (IL)
Hudson	García (MS)	García (MS)
Hudson	García (FL)	García (FL)
Hudson	García (NY)	García (NY)
Hudson	García (PA)	García (PA)
Hudson	García (CA	

Larsen (WA) O'Halleran  
 Larson (CT) Ocasio-Cortez  
 Lawrence Omar  
 Lawson (FL) Pallone  
 Lee (CA) Panetta  
 Lee (NV) Pappas  
 Levin (CA) Pascrell  
 Levin (MI) Payne  
 Lewis Perlmutter  
 Lieu, Ted Peterson  
 Lipinski Phillips  
 Loebssack Pingree  
 Lofgren Pocan  
 Lowenthal Porter  
 Luján Pressley  
 Luria Price (NC)  
 Lynch Quigley  
 Malinowski Raskin  
 Maloney, Carolyn B. Rice (NY)  
 Maloney, Sean Richmond  
 Matsui Rose (NY)  
 McAdams Rouda  
 McBath Roybal-Allard  
 McCollum Ruiz  
 McGovern Ruppersberger  
 McNearney Rush  
 Meeks Sánchez  
 Meng Sarbanes  
 Moore Scanlon  
 Morelle Schakowsky  
 Moulton Schiff  
 Muñoz-Powell Schneider  
 Murphy (FL) Schrader  
 Nadler Schrier  
 Napolitano Scott (VA)  
 Neal Scott, David  
 Neguse Serrano  
 Norcross Sewell (AL)

## NAYS—180

Abraham Gohmert  
 Aderholt Gonzalez (OH)  
 Allen Gooden  
 Amash Gosar  
 Armstrong Granger  
 Arrington Graves (GA)  
 Babin Graves (LA)  
 Bacon Graves (MO)  
 Baird Green (TN)  
 Balderson Griffith  
 Banks Guest  
 Barr Guthrie  
 Biggs Hagedorn  
 Bishop (UT) Harris  
 Bost Hartzler  
 Brady Hern, Kevin  
 Brooks (AL) Herrera Beutler  
 Brooks (IN) Hice (GA)  
 Buchanan Higgins (LA)  
 Buck Hill (AR)  
 Bucshon Holding  
 Budd Hollingsworth  
 Burchett Hudson  
 Burgess Huizinga  
 Byrne Hunter  
 Calvert Hurd (TX)  
 Carter (GA) Johnson (LA)  
 Carter (TX) Johnson (OH)  
 Chabot Johnson (SD)  
 Cheney Jordan  
 Cline Joyce (OH)  
 Cloud Katko  
 Cole Kelly (MS)  
 Comer King (IA)  
 Conaway King (NY)  
 Cook Kinzinger  
 Crawford Kustoff (TN)  
 Crenshaw LaHood  
 Curtis LaMalfa  
 Davidson (OH) Lamborn  
 Davis, Rodney Latta  
 DesJarlais Lesko  
 Diaz-Balart Long  
 Duncan Loudermilk  
 Dunn Lucas  
 Emmer Luettkemeyer  
 Estes Marchant  
 Ferguson Marshall  
 Fitzpatrick Massie  
 Fleischmann Mast  
 Flores McCarthy  
 Fortenberry McCaul  
 Foxx (NC) McClintock  
 Fulcher McHenry  
 Gaetz McKinley  
 Gallagher Meadows  
 Gianforte Miller  
 Gibbs Mitchell

Shalala  
 Sherman  
 Sires  
 Slotkin  
 Smith (WA)  
 Soto  
 Spanberger  
 Speier  
 Peterson  
 Phillips  
 Pingree  
 Pocan  
 Swalwell (CA)  
 Thompson (CA)  
 Thompson (MS)  
 Titus  
 Tlaib  
 Tonko  
 Torres (CA)  
 Torres Small  
 (NM)  
 Trahan  
 Trone  
 Underwood  
 Van Drew  
 Vargas  
 Veasey  
 Vela  
 Velázquez  
 Visclosky  
 Wasserman  
 Schultz  
 Waters  
 Watson Coleman  
 Welch  
 Wexton  
 Wild  
 Wilson (FL)  
 Yarmuth

Wittman  
 Womack  
 Wright  
 Yoho  
 Young  
 Zeldin  
 NOT VOTING—25  
 Amodei  
 Bergman  
 Bilarakis  
 Bishop (NC)  
 Collins (GA)  
 Eshoo  
 Fudge  
 Gabbard  
 Grothman  
 Joyce (PA)  
 Keller  
 Kelly (PA)  
 Lowey  
 McEachin  
 Meuser  
 Peters  
 Reschenthaler  
 Roe, David P.  
 Smucker  
 Steil  
 Stivers  
 Takano  
 Thompson (PA)  
 Timmons  
 Woodall

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

## □ 1428

So the resolution was agreed to.  
 The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, due to a roundtable on veterans suicide at the White House, which is part of my work as Ranking Member of the Veterans Affairs Committee, I was unable to make the first series of votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted “nay” on rollcall No. 579 and “nay” on rollcall No. 580.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION  
 Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I was unable to attend votes between October 15 and 23 due to a long standing family commitment. While this would not have changed the outcome, below is how I would have voted on each roll call.

Had I been present, I would have voted: “yea” on rollcall No. 576, “nay” on rollcall No. 577, “yea” on rollcall No. 578, “nay” on rollcall No. 579, and “nay” on rollcall No. 580.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, The White House held a roundtable on the National Crisis of Veteran Suicide, which I was invited to be a part of. Had I been present, I would have voted “nay” on rollcall No. 579 and “nay” on rollcall No. 580.

## STOPPING HARMFUL INTERFERENCE IN ELECTIONS FOR A LASTING DEMOCRACY ACT

## GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material on H.R. 4617.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 650 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 4617.

The Chair appoints the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CUELLAR) to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

## □ 1432

## IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole

House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 4617) to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to clarify the obligation to report acts of foreign election influence and require implementation of compliance and reporting systems by Federal campaigns to detect and report such acts, and for other purposes, with Mr. CUELLAR in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

General debate shall not exceed 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on House Administration.

The gentlewoman from California (Ms. LOFGREN) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, H.R. 4617 is comprehensive legislation to strengthen the resilience of our democracy and protect against foreign interference in our elections, including by foreign governments.

These concerns go back to the earliest days of our country. In his farewell address to the people of the United States, our first President, George Washington, warned that “Against the insidious wiles of foreign influence . . . the jealousy of a free people ought to be constantly awake, since history and experience prove that foreign influence is one of the most baneful foes of the republican government.”

Mr. Chair, the 2020 Federal elections are fast-approaching. Public confidence and trust in our elections is of the utmost importance. We know that foreign adversaries are working to undermine that trust today. To quote former Special Counsel Mueller in July, “They are doing it as we sit here.”

Our adversaries have a variety of tools to interfere in our democracy. These tools sow disinformation to provoke discord. Their goal is to divide us and attack our values of equality and freedom. Their tactics are calculated to undermine confidence in our democratic institutions so that they will collapse under the pressure of the division and distrust. The need to act is urgent.

We have been warned repeatedly about this. The former Director of National Intelligence, Dan Coats, wrote earlier this year in his Worldwide Threat Assessment, that as the 2020 elections advance, our “adversaries and strategic competitors almost certainly will use online influence operations to try to weaken democratic institutions, undermine U.S. alliances and partnerships, and shape policy outcomes in the United States and elsewhere.”

He also wrote that their tactics will include spreading disinformation, conducting hack-and-leak operations, or manipulating data in a more targeted