

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2481, the Romance Scam Prevention Act, led by Representative VALADAO. This legislation would require online dating platforms to notify users when they have interacted with someone who has been removed from the platform for fraudulent activity.

Online dating platforms have been around for over 30 years, and they continue to grow in popularity. While they can help people connect, their accessibility and digital format have also created new risks, unfortunately.

The FTC, the Federal Trade Commission, reported that romance scams lost victims \$1.3 billion in 2022. I have constituents who were victims, unfortunately. Many of those affected were elderly individuals who lost their retirement savings. What a shame.

By requiring a fraud ban notification, we can put a stop to these senseless scams and protect vulnerable consumers.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in voting in favor of H.R. 2481, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 2481, the Romance Scam Prevention Act.

As more consumers report using online dating services, it is important that they are made aware of potential harms. This bill ensures that when an online dating service bans a user for fraud, it notifies all the other users who have been in contact with that banned person on the service. This will help to reduce the number of people who fall victim to identified fraudsters looking to extort money from dating app users.

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Mr. Speaker, this bill is an important first step in addressing harm in the online dating space. However, there is a lot more to be done, and vulnerable consumers need a strong and independent Federal Trade Commission to prosecute fraudsters and scammers and to protect them from having their emotions exploited for financial gain.

I encourage my Republican colleagues to support this legislation as well as the bipartisan FTC that ensures consumer protection measures like this one are fully and fairly enforced for all Americans. I thank Representatives PETTERSEN and VALADAO for their leadership on this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from the great State of California (Mr. VALADAO), a very effective Member of Congress.

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to urge support for my bill, the Romance Scam Prevention Act. Every year, millions of Americans from all ages and backgrounds use dating apps and websites to make connections.

For many, online dating has made it easier to build relationships. Unfortunately, there are countless stories of criminals using these sites for fraudulent activity.

While it is sadly common to see users lie about things like their age and occupation, romance scammers use fake profiles to develop connections and emotionally or financially exploit unsuspecting users. According to the Federal Trade Commission, Americans lost over \$1.1 billion in 2023 alone, with senior citizens being the age group most at risk.

There have been countless stories of people being conned out of their entire life savings, all because they believed they had found love online. People who meet online often take their conversations to other communication platforms and might not know that they are talking to someone who has been removed from the original dating app.

This bill requires dating platforms to issue fraud ban notifications to users who have interacted with an account who has been removed for fraudulent activity.

As criminals are becoming more sophisticated when it comes to exploiting victims online, it is time to put safeguards in place to protect users from financial fraud.

I thank Chairman GUTHRIE and his staff at the Committee on Energy and Commerce for their work on this important bill, as well as my co-leads, Representatives BRITTANY PETTERSEN, TOM SUOZZI, and CRAIG GOLDMAN.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I will close by saying I do think this is an important bill for avoiding fraud. I am very concerned about fraud on these dating service apps. I commend Mr. VALADAO for bringing this forward, and I urge everyone to support the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I urge a "yes" vote on this particular bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2481.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### GLOBAL INVESTMENT IN AMERICAN JOBS ACT OF 2025

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1679) to direct the Secretary of Commerce, in coordination with the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies, to conduct an interagency review of and report to Congress on ways to increase the global competitiveness of the United States

in attracting foreign direct investment.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1679

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Global Investment in American Jobs Act of 2025".

#### SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the ability of the United States to attract foreign direct investment from responsible private-sector entities based in trusted countries is directly linked to the long-term economic prosperity, global competitiveness, and security of the United States;

(2) it is a top national priority to enhance the global competitiveness, economic prosperity, and security of the United States by—

(A) removing unnecessary barriers to foreign direct investment from responsible private-sector entities based in trusted countries and the jobs that such investment creates throughout the United States;

(B) promoting policies to ensure the United States remains the premier global destination to invest, hire, innovate, provide services, and manufacture products;

(C) promoting policies to ensure the United States remains the global leader in developing and deploying cutting-edge technologies, such as self-driving vehicle technology, artificial intelligence, Internet of Things, quantum computing, blockchain; and

(D) promoting policies that maintain and expand resilient supply chains and reduce the dependence of the United States on supply chains from China;

(3) maintaining the United States commitment to an open investment policy with private-sector entities based in trusted countries encourages other countries to reciprocate and enable the United States to open new markets abroad for United States companies and their products;

(4) while foreign direct investment by responsible private-sector entities based in trusted countries can enhance the United States economic strength, policies regarding foreign direct investment should reflect security interests and should not disadvantage domestic investors or companies;

(5) United States efforts to attract foreign direct investment from responsible private-sector entities based in trusted countries should be consistent with efforts to maintain and improve domestic standard of living;

(6) as digital information becomes increasingly important to the United States economy and the development of new technologies and services that will be crucial to the country's competitiveness in the 21st century global economy, barriers including data localization and infringement of intellectual property rights must be further addressed; and

(7) foreign direct investment by companies or other entities owned, directed, supported, or influenced by the Chinese Communist Party is a threat to U.S. security and merits an aggressive policy framework to protect U.S. interests, jobs, intellectual property, and security.

#### SEC. 3. FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT REVIEW.

(a) REVIEW.—The Secretary of Commerce and the Comptroller General of the Government Accountability Office, in consultation with the Federal Interagency Investment Working Group established by Executive Order 13577 and in consultation with the heads of other relevant Federal departments

and agencies, shall conduct an interagency review of the global competitiveness of the United States in attracting foreign direct investment from responsible private-sector entities based in trusted countries and addressing key foreign trade barriers that firms in advanced technology sectors face in the global digital economy.

(b) **SPECIFIC MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.**—The review conducted pursuant to subsection (a) shall include a review of the following:

(1) The current economic impact of foreign direct investment in the United States, with particular focus on manufacturing, services, trade (with an emphasis on digital trade), and U.S. jobs.

(2) Trends in global cross-border investment and data flows and the underlying factors for such trends.

(3) Federal Government policies that facilitate foreign direct investment attraction and retention from responsible private-sector entities based in trusted countries.

(4) Foreign direct investment as compared to direct investment by domestic entities.

(5) Foreign direct investment that takes the form of greenfield investment as compared to foreign direct investment relating to merger and acquisition activity.

(6) The unique challenges posed by foreign direct investment, particularly acquisitions, in the United States by State-owned or State-backed enterprises, especially from State-directed economies, including companies or other entities owned, directed, supported, or influenced by the Chinese Communist Party.

(7) Specific information on the prevalence of investments made by State-owned or State-backed enterprises, especially from State-directed economies, including companies or other entities owned, directed, supported, or influenced by the Chinese Communist Party, with a particular focus on investments relating to manufacturing, services, trade (with an emphasis on digital trade), and jobs.

(8) How other trusted countries are dealing with the challenge of State-directed and State-supported investment and whether there are opportunities to work with like-minded nations to address such challenge.

(9) Ongoing Federal Government efforts to improve the investment climate and facilitate greater levels of foreign direct investment in the United States from responsible private-sector entities based in trusted countries.

(10) Innovative and noteworthy initiatives by State and local government to attract foreign investment from responsible private-sector entities based in trusted countries.

(11) Initiatives by other countries to identify best practices for increasing global competitiveness in attracting foreign direct investment from responsible private-sector entities based in trusted countries.

(12) The impact that protectionist policies by other countries, including forced data localization rules, forced localization of production, industrial subsidies, and the infringement of intellectual property rights, have on the advanced technology economy of the United States and the ability for United States located firms to develop innovative technologies.

(13) Other barriers to the ability of the United States to compete globally in an increasingly connected and digital global economy, including, the use of technical barriers to trade, country-specific standards for technology products and digital services.

(14) The adequacy of efforts by the Federal Government to encourage and facilitate foreign direct investment in the United States.

(15) Efforts by the Chinese Communist Party to circumvent existing laws to gain access to U.S. markets, foreign direct invest-

ment responsible private-sector entities based in trusted countries, or intellectual property.

(c) **LIMITATION.**—The review conducted pursuant to subsection (a) shall not address laws or policies relating to the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States.

(d) **PUBLIC COMMENT.**—Before—

(1) conducting the review pursuant to subsection (a), the Secretary shall publish notice of the review in the Federal Register and shall provide an opportunity for public comment on the matters to be covered by the review; and

(2) the submission of the report pursuant to subsection (e), the Secretary shall publish the proposed findings and recommendations in the Federal Register and shall provide an opportunity for public comment.

(e) **REPORT TO CONGRESS.**—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in coordination with the Federal Interagency Investment Working Group and the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies, shall submit to Congress a report on the findings of the review required pursuant to subsection (a) and include recommendations for increasing the global competitiveness of the United States in attracting foreign direct investment from responsible private-sector entities based in trusted countries in a manner that strengthens or maintains the security, labor, consumer, financial, or environmental protections of the United States.

(f) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this Act:

(1) **RESPONSIBLE PRIVATE-SECTOR ENTITY.**—The term “responsible private-sector entity” means an entity that the Secretary of Commerce determines is—

(A) not organized under the laws of a foreign adversary; and

(B) not owned, controlled, or otherwise subject to the influence of, a foreign adversary.

(2) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Commerce.

(3) **TRUSTED COUNTRY.**—The term “trusted country” means a country that is not determined by the Secretary of Commerce to be a of the United States.

The **SPEAKER** pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. **BILIRAKIS**) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. **PALLONE**) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. **BILIRAKIS**. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this particular bill.

The **SPEAKER** pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Mr. **BILIRAKIS**. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1679, the Global Investment in American Jobs Act of 2025. This is being led by the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. **EVANS**), my good friend and a very effective Member of Congress.

This bill directs the Secretary of Commerce and the Comptroller General to conduct a review and report on ways to increase and attract foreign direct investment, or FDI, from trusted countries.

The United States is currently a global leader in deployment of emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, autonomous vehicles, blockchain, and many more. To maintain that leadership, we must continue to foster an environment that encourages our allies and trusted global partners to invest here at home.

By removing barriers and showing the world that the U.S. is the premier destination for investment, innovation, manufacturing, and deployment, the U.S. will cement itself as the global leader of the new age of technological advancements.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in favor of this particular bill, H.R. 1679.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. **PALLONE**. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 1679, the Global Investment in American Jobs Act. This legislation will encourage foreign direct investment to support high-quality American jobs.

Foreign direct investment from non-adversarial Nations can be used to grow critical sectors important for our economic success and national security including by creating new jobs in our Nation's manufacturing sector.

Once the envy of the world, our manufacturing base has faced steady headwinds for the last several decades. Our Nation's share of global manufacturing activity declined from 28 percent in 2002 to just over 17 percent in 2020.

Investment in America's small and medium manufacturers, the bedrock of our industrial might, has also declined over the last 20 years by more than \$200 billion. In that same two-decade period, our domestic manufacturing base has shed more than 4 million jobs.

It is time to reverse these trends by revitalizing our Nation's manufacturing industry and bringing jobs back home. The work we did under the Biden administration, passing the bipartisan infrastructure law, Inflation Reduction Act, and the CHIPS and Science Act, is already helping to turn the tide.

I am concerned that actions by the Trump administration are putting this great success at risk. The attempts to claw back these historic investments in our manufacturing sector, unstable and erratic tariff policies, and mass elimination of trusted Federal programs and partners put American businesses at a disadvantage.

All of these actions by the Trump administration are detrimental to our ability to compete globally. I encourage my Republican colleagues to stand up for American businesses, large and small, against the chaotic actions of this administration.

Foreign direct investment can be part of the solution to revitalize American manufacturing and job creation. Over a third of all foreign direct investments are in domestic manufacturing, exceeding a total of \$120 billion a year.

This bill will help ensure we keep that flow of investment strong and that such investments support quality, good-paying jobs right here at home. It must be coupled with Federal trade policies coming from the White House and this Congress that encourages stability in the marketplace, protects our relationships with close trading partners, and lowers costs for American families.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Representatives KELLY and EVANS for their leadership on this issue. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from the State of Colorado (Mr. EVANS), a true public servant.

Mr. EVANS of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in strong support of my bipartisan bill, the Global Investment in American Jobs Act.

Mr. Speaker, this is a critical piece of legislation that will help bolster American competitiveness in the face of increasing economic aggression from the Chinese Communist Party, all while helping to create jobs in my home State of Colorado and all across the Nation.

First and foremost, I extend my gratitude to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. KELLY) for helping to introduce this bill with me. I am proud to work with her in a bipartisan fashion to advance this bill first through the Energy and Commerce Committee and now onto the House floor.

In Colorado alone, there are more than 126,000 workers that are the direct result of foreign direct investment. Of these workers, 31 percent work in manufacturing roles. These jobs, like other good, blue-collar jobs in my district, provide stable, good-paying careers to constituents to help provide for their families. Oftentimes, these jobs are obtainable to folks with a high school degree after a quick and affordable career technical education course.

My bill tasks the Secretary of Commerce with conducting an interagency review to help create a more favorable environment for foreign direct investment, ultimately boosting our economy and benefiting American workers.

International companies are beginning to recognize what most of us have known for decades. The American worker is among the most talented in the world. Whether it is energy, technology, or chemicals, Americans produce some of the highest quality products in the cleanest, most efficient, and socially responsible ways possible.

With the resurgence in America's manufacturing industry, global investors are now clamoring to pump money into emerging industries in the U.S. Congress needs to ensure that we as a Nation are striking the right approach in courting international companies and facilitating responsible investments.

This legislation doesn't just help create good-paying jobs. It also helps to ensure that America remains competitive with the Chinese Communist Party by retaining our technological advantage in research and development.

International employers in the U.S. account for more than \$80 billion in research and development. With this bill, Congress can take a major step in seeing this number increase over the coming years.

This isn't just something that we should consider doing. It is necessary. In the face of increasingly unscrupulous tactics from the Chinese Communist Party such as rampant intellectual property theft, corporate espionage, the use of slave labor, and environmentally reckless energy practices, it is imperative for the United States to leverage every available tool to bolster American industry, such as this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the Global Investment in American Jobs Act to maintain Americans' competitive edge, invest in our domestic talent, bring more jobs home, and drive innovation to usher in the next era of manufacturing dominance in the United States.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I know in my district that foreign direct investment is important in creating jobs. I would certainly say that nationally this is an important piece of legislation. For that reason, I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I encourage a "yes" vote on this particular bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1679.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE POLLUTION PREVENTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY ACT

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2269) to require certain products to be labeled with "Do Not Flush" labeling, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2269

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Wastewater Infrastructure Pollution Prevention and Environmental Safety Act" or the "WIPPES Act".

#### SEC. 2. "DO NOT FLUSH" LABELING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—A covered entity shall label a covered product clearly and conspicuously with the label notice and symbol, in accordance with subsections (b) and (c).

##### (b) REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) CYLINDRICAL PACKAGING.—In the case of a covered product sold in cylindrical or near-cylindrical packaging, and intended to dispense individual wipes—

(A) the symbol and label notice shall be displayed on the principal display panel in a clear and conspicuous location reasonably visible to the user each time a wipe is dispensed; or

(B) the symbol shall be displayed on the principal display panel and the label notice, or a combination of the label notice and symbol, shall be displayed on a flip lid in a manner that covers at least 8 percent of the surface area of the flip lid.

(2) FLEXIBLE FILM PACKAGING.—In the case of a covered product sold in flexible film packaging, and intended to dispense individual wipes—

(A) the symbol shall be displayed on the principal display panel and, if the principal display panel is not on the dispensing side of the packaging, on the dispensing side panel; and

(B) the label notice shall be displayed on either the principal display panel or the dispensing side panel, in a clear and conspicuous location reasonably visible to the user each time a wipe is dispensed.

(3) RIGID PACKAGING.—In the case of a covered product sold in a refillable tub or other rigid packaging that may be reused by a customer, and that is intended to dispense individual wipes, the symbol and label notice shall be displayed on the principal display panel in a clear and conspicuous location reasonably visible to the user each time a wipe is dispensed.

(4) PACKAGING NOT INTENDED TO DISPENSE INDIVIDUAL WIPES.—In the case of a covered product sold in packaging that is not intended to dispense individual wipes, the symbol and label notice shall be displayed on the principal display panel in a clear and conspicuous location reasonably visible to the user of the covered product.

##### (5) BULK PACKAGING.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a covered product sold in bulk at retail, the symbol and label notice shall be displayed on both the outer packaging visible at retail and the individual packaging contained within the outer packaging.

(B) EXEMPTION.—The following shall be exempt from the requirements of subparagraph (A):

(i) Individually packaged covered products that are contained within outer packaging, are not intended to dispense individual wipes, and have no retail labeling.

(ii) Outer packaging that does not obscure the symbol and label notice on individually packaged covered products contained within.

##### (6) PACKAGING OF COMBINED PRODUCTS.—

(A) OUTER PACKAGING.—The outer packaging of combined products shall be exempt from the symbol and label notice requirements of subsection (a).

(B) PACKAGES LESS THAN 3 BY 3 INCHES.—In the case of a covered product in packaging smaller than 3 inches by 3 inches (such as an individually packaged wipe in tear-top packaging) and sold as part of a combined product, if a symbol and label notice are placed in a prominent location reasonably visible to the user of the covered product, such covered product shall be considered to be labeled clearly and conspicuously.

##### (c) REASONABLE VISIBILITY OF SYMBOL AND LABEL NOTICE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A covered entity shall ensure that—