

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4484

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit foreign nationals from making contributions in connection with a State or local ballot initiative or referendum.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 6, 2023

Mr. FITZPATRICK (for himself and Mr. GOLDEN of Maine) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit foreign nationals from making contributions in connection with a State or local ballot initiative or referendum.

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 “Keeping Foreign  
5 Money out of Ballot Measures Act of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON CONTRIBUTIONS AND DONATIONS**  
2 **BY FOREIGN NATIONALS IN CONNECTION**  
3 **WITH BALLOT INITIATIVES AND REFERENDA.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 29 of title 18, United  
5 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
6 lowing new section:

7 **“§ 612. Foreign nationals making certain political**  
8 **contributions**

9 “(a) PROHIBITION.—It shall be unlawful for a for-  
10 eign national, directly or indirectly, to make a contribution  
11 as such term is defined in section 301(8)(A) of the Federal  
12 Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30101(8)(A))  
13 or donation of money or other thing of value, or to make  
14 an express or implied promise to make a contribution or  
15 donation, in connection with a State or local ballot initia-  
16 tive or referendum.

17 “(b) PENALTY.—Any person who violates subsection  
18 (a) shall be fined not more than the greater of \$10,000  
19 or 300 percent of the amount of the contribution or value  
20 of the donation of money or other thing of value made  
21 by the person, imprisoned for not more than 1 year, or  
22 both.

23 “(c) FOREIGN NATIONAL DEFINED.—In this section,  
24 the term ‘foreign national’ has the meaning given such  
25 term in section 319(b) of the Federal Election Campaign  
26 Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30121(b)).”.

1           (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
2 for chapter 29 of title 18, United States Code, is amended  
3 by adding at the end the following new item:

“612. Foreign nationals making certain political contributions.”.

4           (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
5 this section shall apply with respect to contributions and  
6 donations made on or after the date of the enactment of  
7 this Act.

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