

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8174

To amend the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938 to prohibit certain individuals from service as an agent of a foreign principal, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 30, 2024

Mr. GOLDEN of Maine introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938 to prohibit certain individuals from service as an agent of a foreign principal, and for other purposes.

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 “Congressional and Ex-
5 ecutive Foreign Lobbying Ban Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITING CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS FROM ACTING**
7 **AS AGENTS OF FOREIGN PRINCIPALS.**

8 (a) FORMER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS; GENERAL OR
9 FLAG OFFICERS OF ARMED FORCES.—

1 (1) PROHIBITING REGISTRATION AS AGENT.—
2 The Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as
3 amended (22 U.S.C. 611 et seq.) is amended—

4 (A) by redesignating sections 12 through
5 14 as sections 13 through 15; and

6 (B) by inserting after section 11 the fol-
7 lowing new section:

8 **“SEC. 12. PROHIBITING REGISTRATION OF CERTAIN INDI-**
9 **VIDUALS.**

10 “(a) PROHIBITION.—No individual may register
11 under this Act or otherwise serve as the agent of a foreign
12 principal if the individual at any time served as a Member
13 of Congress, as a senior political appointee, or as a general
14 or flag officer of the Armed Forces.

15 “(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

16 “(1) the term ‘Member of Congress’ means a
17 Senator or Representative in, or Delegate or Resi-
18 dent Commissioner to, the Congress; and

19 “(2) the term ‘senior political appointee’—

20 “(A) means—

21 “(i) any individual occupying a full-
22 time senior position and who is appointed
23 by the President or the Vice President;(ii)
24 any noncareer appointee in the Senior Ex-

1 executive Service (or other SES-type sys-
2 tem); and

3 “(iii) any appointee to a position, at
4 or above the level of a noncareer member
5 of the Senior Executive Service, that has
6 been excepted from the competitive service
7 by reason of being of a confidential or pol-
8 icymaking character (schedule C and other
9 positions excepted under comparable cri-
10 teria) in an executive agency; and

11 “(B) does not include any individual ap-
12 pointed as a member of the Senior Foreign
13 Service or, except for a general or flag officer
14 of the Armed Forces, solely as a uniformed
15 service commissioned officer.”.

16 (2) OTHER REPRESENTATION OF FOREIGN EN-
17 TITIES.—Section 207(f)(1) of title 18, United States
18 Code, is amended by inserting after “within 1 year”
19 the following: “(or, in the case of a person who is
20 subject to any of such restrictions and who is a
21 Member of Congress, a senior political appointee (as
22 that term is defined in section 12 of the Foreign
23 Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended (22
24 U.S.C. 611 et seq.)), or a general or flag officer of
25 the Armed Forces, at any time)”.

1 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by
2 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to any individual
3 whose service as a Member of Congress, a senior political
4 appointee (as that term is defined in section 12(b)(2) of
5 the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended
6 (22 U.S.C. 611 et seq.) (as added by subsection (a)), or
7 as a general or flag officer of the Armed Forces terminates
8 on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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