

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1679

To amend the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938 to increase enforcement of certain violations and strengthen certain transparency requirements.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 31, 2017

Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. DURBIN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To amend the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938 to increase enforcement of certain violations and strengthen certain transparency requirements.

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 “Foreign Agent Lob-
5 bying Transparency Enforcement Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES.**

7 Section 8 of the Foreign Agents Registration Act of
8 1938 (22 U.S.C. 618) is amended by inserting after sub-
9 section (c) the following:

1 “(d) If the Attorney General determines that any per-
 2 son has engaged in any acts that constitute a violation
 3 of any provision of this Act, or regulations issued there-
 4 under, or if any agent of a foreign principal fails to comply
 5 with any of the provisions of this Act or the regulations
 6 issued thereunder, or otherwise is in violation of this Act,
 7 the Attorney General may impose a civil fine of—

8 “(1) not less than \$2,500 for the first offense;

9 “(2) not less than \$5,000 for the second of-
 10 fense; and

11 “(3) any amount that the Attorney General de-
 12 termines is appropriate based on the severity and
 13 frequency of the offenses.”.

14 **SEC. 3. FILING AND LABELING POLITICAL PROPAGANDA.**

15 Section 4 of the Foreign Agents Registration Act of
 16 1938 (22 U.S.C. 614) is amended—

17 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “or circulated
 18 among two or more persons” and inserting “to any
 19 other person”; and

20 (2) by adding at the end the following:

21 “(g) **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED WITH**
 22 **FILING.**—It shall be unlawful for any person within the
 23 United States who is an agent of a foreign principal and
 24 required to register under the provisions of this Act to
 25 transmit or cause to be transmitted in the United States

1 mails or by any means or instrumentality of interstate or
2 foreign commerce any informational materials for or in the
3 interests of such foreign principal without filing with the
4 Attorney General a statement that includes—

5 “(1) the name of each original recipient of the
6 materials; and

7 “(2) the original date on which the materials
8 will be distributed.”.

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