

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 59th Legislature (2024)

HOUSE BILL 3815

By: Dollens

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to state government; creating the Prohibition of Foreign Funding for Ballot Measures Act; declaring legislative intent; defining terms; prohibiting foreign entities from contributing to the support or opposition of ballot measures; requiring certain disclosure and returning of funds; providing for enforcement of act; providing for penalties; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

A. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Prohibition of Foreign Funding for Ballot Measures Act".

B. The purpose of this act is to safeguard the integrity of the democratic process by preventing the undue influence of foreign entities in the funding of ballot measures within the State of Oklahoma. The Legislature finds that foreign funding of ballot measures may compromise the interests and autonomy of the citizens

1 of Oklahoma, thereby necessitating measures to maintain the
2 sovereignty of the electoral process.

3 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
4 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 4270 of Title 74, unless there
5 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

6 A. As used in the Prohibition of Foreign Funding for Ballot
7 Measures Act:

8 1. "Foreign entity" means any individual, organization,
9 corporation, government, or other entity that is not a citizen,
10 resident, or legal entity within the United States; and

11 2. "Ballot measure" includes any initiative, referendum, or
12 other measure that is placed on the ballot for a vote by the
13 citizens of Oklahoma.

14 B. No person, organization, or entity that is a foreign entity
15 shall contribute funds, directly or indirectly, to any campaign or
16 organization supporting or opposing a ballot measure within the
17 State of Oklahoma. Any ballot measure campaign or organization
18 found to have knowingly accepted foreign funding shall be subject to
19 penalties as determined by the Oklahoma Ethics Commission.

20 C. All ballot measure campaigns and organizations shall
21 disclose the source of their funds in a timely and transparent
22 manner. Any contribution received from a foreign entity, even if
23 inadvertently accepted, shall be promptly returned, and the details
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1 of such transactions must be reported to the Oklahoma Ethics
2 Commission.

3 D. The Oklahoma Ethics Commission shall be responsible for
4 enforcing the provisions of this act. Violations of this act may
5 result in fines, penalties, or other sanctions as determined by the
6 Oklahoma Ethics Commission.

7 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2024.

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9 59-2-9780 LRB 12/30/23

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