



HB0337

Prohibiting foreign funding of ballot measures.

Sponsored By: Representative(s) Webber, Andrew, Brady, Campbell, K, Guggenmos, Hoeft, Lien, McCann, Wasserburger and Wharff

AN ACT relating to elections; requiring groups, political action committees and organizations that are influencing a statewide initiative or referendum to file statements related to funding from prohibited sources; prohibiting a foreign national from controlling or influencing the decision making of a group, political action committee or organization influencing a statewide initiative or referendum; providing a cause of action; specifying penalties; and providing for an effective date.

1/29/2025 Bill Number Assigned
1/30/2025 H Received for Introduction
2/3/2025 H Introduced and Referred to H02 - Appropriations
2/7/2025 H02 - Appropriations:Recommend Do Pass 7-0-0-0-0

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Representative(s) Allemand, Angelos, Bear, Haroldson, Pendergraft, Sherwood, Smith
Ayes 7 **Nays** 0 **Excused** 0 **Absent** 0 **Conflicts** 0

2/7/2025 H Placed on General File
2/10/2025 H COW:Passed

HB0337H2001/ADOPTED

Page 1-line 1 After "groups" insert ", political action committees and organizations".
Page 1-line 5 After "group" insert ", political action committee or organization".
Page 1-line 12 After "22-24-202" insert "and 22-25-116"; delete "is" and insert "are".
Page 4-after line 2 Insert:

"22-25-116. Prohibition of foreign funding influencing statewide ballot measures.

(a) As used in this section:

(i) "Foreign national" means as defined in 52 U.S.C. § 30121(b);

(ii) "Prohibited source" means contributions from or expenditures by a foreign national.

(b) No foreign national shall direct, control or otherwise directly or indirectly participate in the decision making of any political action committee or organization supporting or opposing any statewide initiative or referendum petition drive. No foreign national shall solicit, directly or indirectly, the making of a donation, contribution or expenditure by another person to influence a ballot initiative.

(c) Each political action committee or organization supporting or opposing any statewide initiative or referendum that is required to file reports with the secretary of state under W.S. 22-25-107(a)(vii) shall file an accompanying certification regarding funding from prohibited sources as provided in this paragraph and each itemized statement of contributions and expenditures required by W.S. 22-25-106(b) or (h). The certification shall include the following statements:

(i) That no expenditure of the political action committee or organization was funded by a prohibited source;

(ii) That the political action committee or organization shall not knowingly receive, solicit or accept contributions or expenditures from a prohibited source in any manner;

(iii) That the political action committee or organization will keep records of contributions and expenditures for a period of not less than five (5) years to enable the enforcement of this section.

(d) For each contribution to a political action committee or organization supporting or opposing any statewide initiative or referendum petition that is required to file reports with the secretary of state under W.S. 22-25-107(a)(vii), before accepting the contribution the group shall obtain affirmation from the donor that the donor is not a foreign national and that the donor has not accepted more than one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) in aggregate from prohibited sources in the immediately preceding four (4) year period.

(e) The secretary of state may bring a civil action to enforce the provisions of this section. A violation of this section is subject to a civil penalty of up to twice the amount of any prohibited contribution or expenditure. The secretary of state may obtain injunctive relief from a court of competent jurisdiction to prevent further violations of this section.". WEBBER

2/11/2025 H 2nd Reading:Passed

HB0337H3001/ADOPTED

Page 2-after line 8 Insert:

"(iii) "Directly or indirectly" means acting either alone or jointly with, through or on behalf of any other committee, organization, person or entity.".

Page 2-line 21 After "group was" insert "knowingly, whether directly or indirectly,".

Page 3-line 1 After "knowingly" insert ", whether directly or indirectly,".

Page 3-line 14 Before "accepted" insert "knowingly"; after "accepted" insert ", whether directly or indirectly,".

Page 4-after line 2 In the Webber second reading amendment (HB0337H2001/A) to this line, after paragraph (a)(ii) created by that amendment insert "(iii) "Directly or indirectly" means acting either alone or jointly with,

through or on behalf of any committee, organization, person or entity."; in paragraph (c)(i) created by that amendment after "organization was" insert "knowingly, whether directly or indirectly,"; in paragraph (c)(ii) created by that amendment after "knowingly" insert ", whether directly or indirectly,"; in subsection (d) created by that amendment after "the donor has not" insert "knowingly"; before "accepted" insert ", whether directly or indirectly,". WEBBER

2/12/2025 H 3rd Reading:Passed 58-2-2-0-0

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Representative(s) Allemand, Andrew, Angelos, Banks, Bear, Brady, Bratten, Brown, G, Brown, L, Byron, Campbell, E, Campbell, K, Chestek, Clouston, Connolly, Davis, Eklund, Erickson, Filer, Geringer, Guggenmos, Haroldson, Harshman, Heiner, Hoeft, Jarvis, Johnson, Kelly, Knapp, Larsen, Larson, Lawley, Lien, Locke, Lucas, Mccann, Neiman, Ottman, Pendergraft, Posey, Provenza, Rodriguez-Williams, Schmid, Sherwood, Singh, Strock, Styvar, Tarver, Thayer, Washut, Wasserburger, Webb, Webber, Wharff, Williams, Winter, Wylie, Yin

Nays: Representative(s) Nicholas, Storer

Excused: Representative(s) Riggins, Smith

Ayes 58 **Nays** 2 **Excused** 2 **Absent** 0 **Conflicts** 0

2/13/2025 S Received for Introduction

2/13/2025 S Introduced and Referred to S07 - Corporations