STATE OF WYOMING

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0337

Prohibiting foreign funding of ballot measures.

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

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to elections; requiring groups, political action committees and organizations that are influencing a 2 3 statewide initiative or referendum to file statements related to funding from prohibited sources; prohibiting a 4 foreign national from controlling or influencing the 5 decision making of a group, political action committee or б 7 organization influencing a statewide initiative or 8 referendum; providing a cause of action; specifying 9 penalties; and providing for an effective date. 10 11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming: 12 Section 1. W.S. 22-24-202 and 22-25-116 are created 13

13 Section 1. W.S. 22-24-202 and 22-25-116 are created 14 to read:

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         22-24-202. Prohibition of foreign funding influencing
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    statewide ballot measures.
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        (a) As used in this section:
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             (i) "Foreign national" means as defined in 52
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    U.S.C. § 30121(b);
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             (ii) "Prohibited source" means contributions
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    from or expenditures by a foreign national;
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              (iii) "Directly or indirectly" means acting
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    either alone or jointly with, through or on behalf of any
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    other committee, organization, person or entity.
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         (b) No foreign national shall direct, control or
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    otherwise directly or indirectly participate in the
    decision making of any group that is required to file with
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    the secretary of state under W.S. 22-24-201(a).
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         (c) Each group of persons that is required to file
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    with the secretary of state under W.S. 22-24-201(a) shall
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    file an accompanying certification regarding funding from
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                                          HB0337
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1 prohibited sources as provided in this paragraph. The 2 certification shall include the following statements: 3 4 (i) That no expenditure of the group was

5 knowingly, whether directly or indirectly, funded by a 6 prohibited source;

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8 (ii) That the group shall not knowingly, whether 9 directly or indirectly, receive, solicit or accept 10 contributions or expenditures from a prohibited source in 11 any manner;

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13 (iii) That the group will keep records of 14 contributions and expenditures for a period of not less 15 than five (5) years to enable the enforcement of this 16 section.

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(d) For each contribution to a group of persons that is required to file with the secretary of state under W.S. 22-24-201(a), 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 knowingly accepted, whether directly or indirectly, more than one

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hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) in aggregate from
 prohibited sources in the immediately preceding four (4)
 year period.

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5 (e) The secretary of state may bring a civil action 6 to enforce the provisions of this section. A violation of 7 this section is subject to a civil penalty of up to twice 8 the amount of any prohibited contribution or expenditure. 9 The secretary of state may obtain injunctive relief from a 10 court of competent jurisdiction to prevent further 11 violations of this section.

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13 22-25-116. Prohibition of foreign funding influencing
 14 statewide ballot measures.

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16 (a) As used in this section:

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18 (i) "Directly or indirectly" means acting either
19 alone or jointly with, through or on behalf of any
20 committee, organization, person or entity;

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22 (ii) "Foreign national" means as defined in 52 23 U.S.C. § 30121(b);

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2 (iii) "Prohibited source" means contributions3 from or expenditures by a foreign national.

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(b) No foreign national shall direct, control or 5 otherwise directly or indirectly participate in б the decision making of any political action committee or 7 8 organization supporting or opposing any statewide 9 initiative or referendum petition drive. No foreign 10 national shall solicit, directly or indirectly, the making 11 of a donation, contribution or expenditure by another 12 person to influence a ballot initiative.

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(c) Each political action committee or organization 14 supporting or opposing any statewide initiative or 15 16 referendum that is required to file reports with the 17 secretary of state under W.S. 22-25-107(a)(vii) shall file 18 accompanying certification regarding funding from an 19 prohibited sources as provided in this paragraph and each 20 itemized statement of contributions and expenditures 21 required by W.S. 22-25-106(b) or (h). The certification shall include the following statements: 22

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1 (i) That no expenditure of the political action 2 committee or organization was knowingly, whether directly 3 or indirectly, funded by a prohibited source; 4 5 (ii) That the political action committee or organization shall not knowingly, whether directly 6 or 7 indirectly, receive, solicit or accept contributions or 8 expenditures from a prohibited source in any manner; 9 10 (iii) That the political action committee or organization will keep records of contributions 11 and 12 expenditures for a period of not less than five (5) years to enable the enforcement of this section. 13 14 15 (d) For each contribution to a political action 16 committee or organization supporting or opposing any 17 statewide initiative or referendum petition that is required to file reports with the secretary of state under 18 19 W.S. 22-25-107(a)(vii), before accepting the contribution 20 the group shall obtain affirmation from the donor that the 21 donor is not a foreign national and that the donor has not knowingly, whether directly or indirectly, accepted more 22 23 than one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) in

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1 aggregate from prohibited sources in the immediately 2 preceding four (4) year period.

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4 (e) The secretary of state may bring a civil action to enforce the provisions of this section. A violation of 5 this section is subject to a civil penalty of up to twice 6 7 the amount of any prohibited contribution or expenditure. 8 The secretary of state may obtain injunctive relief from a 9 court of competent jurisdiction to prevent further violations of this section. 10

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12 Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2025. 13 14

(END)