

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to online sellers from foreign
3 countries of concern; creating s. 501.174, F.S.;
4 providing definitions; requiring an online marketplace
5 to record certain information from an online seller to
6 verify an online seller's location; requiring an
7 online marketplace to disclose to consumers an online
8 seller's or online marketplace's location if the
9 online seller or online marketplace is in or conducts
10 business or fulfills orders from a foreign country of
11 concern; requiring an online marketplace to hold in a
12 United States-based escrow account the sales proceeds
13 from transactions between Florida-based consumers and
14 online sellers located in or conducting business or
15 fulfilling orders from a foreign country of concern;
16 requiring an online marketplace to hold such sales
17 proceeds for a certain period; authorizing such sales
18 proceeds to be transferred to the online seller after
19 a certain period; providing for enforcement; providing
20 an effective date.

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22 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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24 **Section 1. Section 501.174, Florida Statutes, is created**
25 **to read:**

26 501.174 Consumer protection against online sellers from
27 foreign countries of concern; online marketplaces.-

28 (1) DEFINITIONS.-As used in this section, the term:

29 (a) "Foreign country of concern" means the People's
30 Republic of China, the Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic
31 of Iran, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Republic
32 of Cuba, the Venezuelan regime of Nicolás Maduro, or the Syrian
33 Arab Republic, including any agency of or any other entity under
34 significant control of such foreign country of concern.

35 (b) "Online marketplace" means any consumer-directed
36 electronically based or accessed platform that:

37 1. Includes features that allow for, facilitate, or enable
38 online sellers to engage in the sale, purchase, payment,
39 storage, shipping, or delivery of a consumer product in the
40 United States;

41 2. Is used by one or more online sellers for such
42 purposes; and

43 3. Has a contractual or similar relationship with
44 consumers governing their use of the platform to purchase
45 consumer products.

46 (c) "Online seller" means any seller, independent of an
47 online marketplace, which sells, offers to sell, or contracts to
48 sell a consumer product in the United States through an online
49 marketplace.

50 (2) DATA COLLECTION.-An online marketplace shall record

51 the Internet protocol address of an online seller to verify its
52 location.

53 (3) DISCLOSURE.—Before a sale transaction, an online
54 marketplace shall disclose to a consumer in a clear and
55 conspicuous manner the general location of the online seller or
56 online platform if the online seller or online platform is
57 located in or conducts business or fulfills orders from a
58 foreign country of concern.

59 (4) TRANSACTION PROCEEDS TO BE HELD BY ONLINE
60 MARKETPLACE.—

61 (a) An online marketplace shall hold in a United States-
62 based escrow account the proceeds of a transaction between a
63 Florida-based consumer and an online seller if the online seller
64 or the online marketplace is located in or conducts business or
65 fulfills orders from a foreign country of concern.

66 (b) The proceeds shall remain in the account for no less
67 than 120 days.

68 (c) The proceeds may be transferred to the online seller
69 after 120 days have elapsed.

70 (5) ENFORCEMENT.—A violation of this section constitutes a
71 violation of the Florida Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices
72 Act under part II of this chapter.

73 **Section 2.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.